

MICHIGAN FARMER.

VOL. X DETROIT, NOVEMBER, 1852. NO. 10, Old series

VOL. III.

WARREN ISHAM, EDITOR.

No. 5, NEW SERIES.



NOTES FROM HOLLAND.

BY THE EDITOR.

THE HYACINTH—ITS CULTURE.

Of all the countries of Europe which we visited, in our late tour, none presented more strange and interesting

objects than Holland—it is quite a little land of wonders. Among other things, it is famous for the cultivation of bulbous roots, and among these that beautiful flower, the hyacinth holds a conspicuous place, the culture of this last being confined to the city of Harlaem and its immediate vicinity. A prime object of my visit to this staid old Dutch city, was, if possible, to get initiated into the mysteries of this department of Floraculture here, where its devotees have held empire, and laid the world under tribute for centuries. We first directed our steps to the principal Florist of the place, by whom we were most hospitably received, and all our inquiries kindly answered.

We asked him why it was, that they had become so distinguished over all the nations of the earth in the cultivation of bulbous rooted flowers, and especially of the hyacinth. He said that there seemed to be something in the soil, or climate, or both, peculiarly adapted to their culture, and added, that there was no spot in all Europe where the hyacinth could be cultivated in the open air, except Holland, and in Holland no where except within two hours walk around Harlaem. Some few varieties only were cultivated at Berlin. Wondering at this, we asked him to show us the soil where it grew, which he did. It was a white sand, and apparently nothing but sand, which, in a dry state, would run off, if it could get any sort of a chance. With it was mixed barn-yard manure, but not enough to show itself much.

This was in July, and the bulbs (which resemble onions) were all out of the ground, and under shelter. As soon as the plant decays, early in Summer, the bulbs are taken out of the ground, and being divested of the top, are placed upon a sort of table, or shelf, under cover, only one layer thick, to dry, where they remain until late in September, or early in October, when they are again placed in the ground—not only the hyacinth, but all bulbous roots.

Bulbs can be produced from the seed in two years, but the usual way of propagating them is to plant the young bulbs which grow around the parent ones, stripping them off when they are taken up, and planting them out at the same time that the old ones are re-set.

They have a beautiful way of getting up this beautiful flower, (the hyacinth) in water glasses for parlor decoration, the plant drawing its subsistence from the water alone. The glass should have two chambers, or apartments, one above the other, communicating with each other in the centre. The lower apartment should be filled with water, which should rise to the bottom of the upper one, which should be open at the top, the roots making their way through the neck, and occupying

place below. The water should be soft, and the plant have light and heat. By placing the bulbs in glasses at proper intervals of time, a constant succession of flowers may be obtained from October to March, forming a pretty ornament for the drawing room, or the mantle piece.

Many other bulbous rooted flowers may be treated in the same way, as the Narcissus, the Dwarf Tulip, the Jonquil, the Crocus, &c.

The London market is entirely dependant on Holland for its supplies of these roots, and the trade is immense.

NOTES FROM ENGLAND. I

BY THE EDITOR.

A CHAPTER ON ENGLISH LAWYERS. MAKING A BARRISTER.

The nobility are not the only privileged order in England. No set of men, titled or untitled, can overtop the London Barristers. Until lately, they had every thing their own way. The Courts of Westminster Hall, in which they alone practised, took cognizance of all important cases throughout the Kingdom, and there was no law to restrain them from extorting the most exorbitant fees. As a consequence, they have, in process of time, grown into the most arrogant aristocracy in the Kingdom.

But the law reform bill has struck as effectual a blow at the citadel of their power, as the corn law repeal did a that of the great land-holders of the Kingdom, and fro both alike is now heard the loud howl of complaint.

The reform consists in transferring a large proportion of the cases which came under the jurisdiction of the Westminster Hall Courts, to the County Courts, where the expense of a suit is trifling compared with what it was in the Courts above, and from these courts they are excluded.

Before the passage of the law (last year) it required quite a little fortune to carry through any important suit. The poor clients might be seen making their way with hurried step, and cheerful countenance to the office of the barrister, to know if their case was to come off according to promise, but they would soon be observed emerging from the same, with heavy heart, downcast looks, and tardy step, having been stunned by the announcement, "your case must lie over sir, and the small additional fee of fifty pounds, will be required." And thus the poor fellows were cheated and humbugged from year to year, until often they were reduced to beggary.

Isaid they might be seen making their way to the office of the barrister—no, no, his nice carpets are never soiled by their vulgar footsteps. His clients never feel the warm grip of his hands, nor hear his oily words. He is above all that—he never sees them. His attorney performs the vulgar work, and makes report to him.

The lawyers are all settled by themselves, their buildings for offices, &c., covering a large area in the heart of the city. The largest collection of them is known by the name of Lincoln's Inn, which embraces all the chancery lawyers. Then there is Grey's Inn, and two or three others, the buildings of each of which cover a large space.

The barristers have a church by themselves. In days of yore, it was "the church of the Holy Sepulchre," but

they have modernised and fitted it up in a state of elegance and taste which is not excelled by any church in Europe. No oratorio excels it in music.

In this church the barristers are all seated by themselves, their wives and their families not being permitted to sit with them. The women also sit by themselves, as do the attorneys and clerks. No woman is admitted unless she goes with a barrister.

I will now detail the sublime process of making a barrister. You may laugh when I tell you, that all that is required of him, is that he eat a certain number of dinners in the dining hall of Lincoln's Inn Fields. But such is the fact nevertheless. How the test originated I am unable to say, but ridiculous as it may seem, it is now the common law of England. It seems to be based upon the presumption, that if the student has eaten the prescribed number of dinners in the Hall, he has gone through the ordinary course of study.

At five P. M., certain mysterious looking gentlemen are seen wending their way to the old dining hall—but see, they enter first another room, and after remaining a little while, come out metamorphosed. It is the robe room—where they change their dress, all being required to make their appearance at the dinner table in flowing robes.

And now they saunter in, and throw themselves upon the sofas, awaiting the approach of their superiors. Soon a loud rap is heard at the door, when it opens, and the *benchers*, (judges) enter and pass between the bowing files of students who had risen spontaneously to their feet, to the further end of the room, where they are seated at tables running transversely across the room. Then follow the barristers, and then the students, whose tables stand longitudinally.

Another loud rap summons them to silence, and grace is said, when all with one consent, make onset upon the loaded tables, there being four of them at a table, which makes a mess. Dinner being ended, they pass out in the same order in which they came in, and with the same demonstrations.

Having swallowed the requisite number of dinners, the student is next to be initiated, to which end, a wig costing five guineas, and a gown costing three, are the first requisites. A notification of the intention of the party to become a barrister, is posted up in the hall, and objections, as well as friends and guests are invited. At the appointed time, the door opens at the sound of the well known rap, and in march the *benchers*, and being seated in awful dignity, they proceed to administer the oaths of abjuration and supremacy, and the oath of allegiance to the trembling candidate; and now he comes out a full fledged barrister. No examination, no questions about his qualifications, nothing is required but the dinners, the gown and the wig.

And then follows a rare scene at the festive board. At first, they sit in grave dignity, but soon, pop, pop, pop, goes the champagne, and no sooner has the sparkling beverage passed the lips, than all is life and animation.—Toasts, witticism, puns, flash from every lip, each in its turn, eagerly. Another foaming bumper, and another, and another, is lifted, toasts multiply, wit sparkles, and of the four which sit around one table, instead of one talker and three listeners as at first, every one is a talker, with no sterner, each endeavoring to make himself heard by raising his voice.

ing his voice high above the tempest around him. And so at all the other tables in the spacious hall, altogether constituting a scene of confusion and uproar which beggars description.

At eleven o'clock the scene closes, and each wends his way to his lodgings.

NOTES FROM BELGIUM.

BY THE EDITOR.

AGRICULTURE OF BELGIUM.

In no country of Europe did we find agriculture more advanced than in Belgium. Instances of greater advance may be found in England, but taking the whole country together, Belgium takes the lead.

Inquiring of an English farmer whom we met at Brussels, (living there to educate his children) what he thought of the agriculture of Belgium, he replied, that it was a small affair compared with English farming. "Why," said he, with a laugh, "look at their paltry farms, containing from fifty to a hundred and fifty acres—how do they compare with our farms in England, containing many of them from five hundred to a thousand, and fifteen hundred acres? He then expatiated on the improvements made by certain individuals in different parts of England.

True, said we, they have not as large farms to boast of as you have, nor have they so prominent instances of individual improvement, but travel the country over, and you will find the spirit of improvement more generally and widely diffused, and a better average of crops, than in your country. And as to your big farms, they are the curse of England, for while one is enabled to luxuriate in abundance, scores must be subjected to privation and want to serve him. You can resort to Brussels to educate your children, and live here in independent ease, while you carry on your farm in Devonshire; but to enable you to do this, how many families of laboring men are necessitated to live without the comforts of life?—Whereas here, by a much greater subdivision of land, the number who have a chance for a comfortable livelihood, is vastly increased. Not only is agricultural improvement but comfort and enjoyment are more widely and generally diffused.

Being a good natured and candid man, he confessed that it was so.

We have never seen so rigid a system of economy practised in the various departments of farming, as in Belgium. All liquid, as well as solid manure, including night-soil, is most sacredly preserved, the former being conducted into tanks. With the various contrivances for this purpose about cities and dwellings, I was particularly struck. It would confound one who has never made it a matter of calculation, to know what a tributary is thus secured to the annual revenue of a farm, the liquid manure which is generally wasted, being about equal in value to the solid, which is saved. And with us generally even the solid manure is half wasted by bleaching and evaporation, while there it is saved from these calamities by shelter and the application of all odorizing agencies.

Liming the land is practised as in England, and to some

extent, guano is used, but not as extensively as in England.

Clover grows most luxuriantly, and it is often turned under as a manure. A good farmer located just upon the verge of the field of Waterloo, assured me that he could keep land in good heart with no other manuring. He said he had cut five crops of it in a year, which seemed hardly creditable to me, Belgium being more than 50 degrees North. The soil, however, is deep, loose, warm and quick and with one plowing, throws up vegetation with astonishing rapidity.

They are tied to no particular rotation of crops. They sometimes raise a crop of potatoes, dunged in the furrow, then a crop of turnips on the same ground, and after the turnips come off, put in a crop of wheat, the same season. Sometimes wheat follows wheat for two years in succession, and then not again in five or six years, the land in the mean time being devoted to rye, flax, potatoes, &c., &c. Flax is extensively cultivated, and the sutching mill which I have described, as in use in Ireland, has been in use here for a long time.

NOTES FROM SCOTLAND.

BY THE EDITOR.

The Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland.

This parent Agricultural Society of Great Britain, was established in the year 1784, and even yet it nearly rivals in its operations the Royal Agricultural Society of England. The objects embraced within the scope of its operations are,

1. The establishment of Cattle Shows and Agricultural Meetings held in different parts of Scotland, at which exhibitors, from all parts of the United Kingdom, have an opportunity of competing for premiums offered for Live Stock, Dairy Produce, and Implements.

2. The establishment of a system of District Shows, instituted for the purposes of improving the Breeds of Stock most suitable for different parts of the country, and of aiding and directing the efforts of Local Agricultural Associations.

3. The advancement of the Veterinary Art by the establishment of a College in Edinburgh, where courses of Lectures are delivered, and Students are instructed in the most approved modes of treating the diseases peculiar to domesticated animals.

4. The appointment of a Chemist and the establishment of a Chemical Department, for the purpose of promoting the application of science to Agriculture.—Investigations on subjects of importance are conducted in the Laboratory, and published in the Transactions. Members have the privilege of applying for analyses of Soils, Manures, &c., on favorable terms.

5. The erection of a Museum, adapted to the reception of Models of Implements and Machines used in the various operations connected with Agriculture.—Of these a large collection has been formed. The Museum also contains an assortment of Vegetable and Mineral Specimens, and Paintings of many of the Animals for which premiums have been awarded.

6. The periodical publication of the Transactions which comprehend the proceedings in the Laboratory, the most interesting and important of the Reports, and other communications addressed to the Society.

7. The establishment of Monthly Meetings in the Museum for the discussion of Agricultural subjects,

To give an idea of the extent of its operations, we subjoin a list of the subjects for essays for which premiums were offered in the year 1851, with the amount of premiums annexed, the number of subjects being more than sixty in all, viz:

On the comparative results of Draining at different depths and distances, and with different materials—Ten Sovereigns.

On the comparative results obtained by different depths of ploughing—Ten Sovereigns.

On the advantages of the Grubber as a substitute for the Plough—Ten Sovereigns.

On saving and applying the Liquid Manure of a Farm—Ten Sovereigns.

On the effect of different kinds of Manures—Twenty five Sovereigns; on the permanency of their effect—Twenty-five Sovereigns.

On the comparative value of Farm-yard Manure, obtained from cattle fed upon different varieties of food—Twenty Sovereigns.

On the comparative value of Manure, made in the ordinary manner, and of Manure kept under cover till applied to the land—Twenty Sovereigns.

On the management of Compost Heaps—Ten Sovereigns.

On the application of Shell, or of Coral Sand, as a fertilizer—Ten Sovereigns.

On the substances which may be most profitably employed in Top-dressing Grass—Ten Sovereigns.

On the cultivation of the Crimson Clover—Ten Sovereigns.

On the suitable proportions and kinds of Clovers and Grasses for two or three years' pasture, and for Hay—Ten Sovereigns.

On the comparative earliness, productiveness, and profit in Grain and Straw, of the different varieties of Oats—Five Sovereigns.

On the comparative earliness, productiveness, and profit of the different varieties of Barley—Five Sovereigns.

On the comparative earliness, productiveness, and profit of the different varieties of White and Red Wheat generally sown—Five Sovereigns.

On the means which may have been successfully employed for obtaining new and superior varieties, or improved sub-varieties, of the different cultivated Grains and Grasses, Clovers, Beans, Peas, Turnips, Potatoes, or other Agricultural Plants—Ten Sovereigns.

On the cultivation of Flax—Twenty Sovereigns.

On the cultivation of Mangold-Wurtzel in Scotland; and its comparative value for feeding purposes—Five Sovereigns.

On the cultivation and uses of the Cabbage, and its comparative value for feeding purposes—Five Sovereigns.

On the Hardy and useful Herbaceous Plants, including Grains and Grasses—Ten Sovereigns.

On the cultivation of the Tussac Grass—Gold Medal.

On the comparative advantages of fattening Cattle in stalls, in loose houses or boxes, and in sheds or ham-mels—Twenty Sovereigns.

On the comparative advantages of soiling and of pasturing Cattle—Ten Sovereigns.

On the actual addition of weight to *growing* or *fattening* Stock, by the use of different kinds of food—Twenty Sovereigns.

On the progressive improvement and increase in weight (during a period of at least three months) of three lots of Cattle; four fed on turnips grown with guano. Four on turnips grown with farm-yard manure. Four on turnips grown with guano and farm-yard manure—Twenty Sovereigns.

On the results obtained by feeding Cattle on Turnips lifted and stored before the 20th of November, and taken from the field during the winter and spring months when required—Ten Sovereigns.

On the Disease in Turnips, termed Aubury, or Fingers and Toes—Ten Sovereigns.

On the nature, symptoms, causes, preventive and remedial treatment, and *post-mortem* appearances, of the Diseases to which Sheep are subject when fed on Turnips—Ten Sovereigns.

On the nature, symptoms, causes, preventive and remedial treatment, and *post-mortem* appearances, of Braxy in Sheep—Ten Sovereigns.

On Farm-Offices—Ten Sovereigns.

On Cottage Accommodation—Ten Sovereigns.

On any useful practice in Rural or Domestic Economy, adopted in other countries, which may seem fitted for being introduced with advantage into great Britain—The Gold Medal.

On extensive plantations of Forest Trees—Gold Medal.

On the formation and management of Young Plantations—Ten Sovereigns.

On the general management of Plantations—Ten Sovereigns.

On the uses and value of different descriptions of Timber—Ten Sovereigns.

On successful Planting within the influence of the sea, or on exposed sterile tracts—Ten Sovereigns.

On the most varied, extensive, and judiciously arranged collection of hardy, or supposed to be hardy, forest and ornamental trees—Ten Sovereigns.

On the diseases incident to Forest Trees—Ten Sovereigns.

On Plantations formed on deep peat moss—Ten Sovereigns.

On the more extended introduction of hardy, useful or ornamental Trees, other than Conifers—The Gold Medal.

On Plants other than the Hawthorn, (*Crataegus Oxyacantha*), which may be employed for enclosures—Five Sovereigns.

On the results attending the culture of recently-introduced Coniferous Trees—The Gold Medal.

To the person who shall send to the Society seeds capable of germination, either of new or recently introduced conifer, or the rarer kinds of Forest trees—The Medium Gold, or Silver Medal.

On the improvement of waste land by tillage, not less than fifty acres—Ten Sovereigns.

Not less than twenty acres—Five Sovereigns.

Not less than ten acres—The Silver Medal.

On the improvement of waste land without tillage—less than thirty acres, by means of Top-Dressing, Draining or otherwise—Ten Sovereigns.

Not less than fifteen acres—The Silver Medal.

To the person who shall succeed in the practical application of steam-power to the Ploughing or Digging of Land—Two Hundred Sovereigns.

On any Agricultural Implements or Machines which shall be deemed by the Society of public utility—Medals or Sums not exceeding Fifty Sovereigns.

On the Construction of the Plough best adapted to produce the following results:—1st, A furrow slice, which, before being turned over or broken, shall contain the largest transverse sectional area, or the greatest cubical contents in a given length. 2d, The lightest draught in proportion to the cubical contents of the furrow slice—Twenty Sovereigns.

On the different Drain Tile and Pipe Machines, which have been brought out during the last fourteen years—Twenty Sovereigns.

On the Machinery best adapted to produce, by one operation, or an uninterrupted series of operations, pipes or tiles from clay in a rough state—Ten Sovereigns.

On the means which may have been successfully adopted for employing Peat as a substitute for, or in combination with Coal, in Burning Drain Pipes or Tiles—Ten Sovereigns.

PICKINGS BY THE WAY—NO. I.

BY THE EDITOR.

Some things worth remembering.

In our recent excursions we have *picked up* some things which may not be unprofitable to our readers. On our way to Jonesville the other day, we had the good fortune at Monroe to fall in with a very intelligent farmer from the State of New York, W. Fay, Esq., of Seneca County.

Mr. F. had attended the Washtenaw Co. Fair at Ypsilanti, and he seemed very much astonished to find such a display of the fruits of agriculture at a county Fair in a new country. Mr. Gale's buck fairly upset all his ideas about Sheep.

He also seemed favorably impressed with the general appearance of the country, and its agricultural capabilities. He had travelled through a considerable portion of it, and as the result of his observation, he gave it the preference over the state of New York, both as a wheat-growing and wool-growing state. He remarked that farmers in the state of New York could double their money by selling out, and moving to Michigan.

Wheat Culture—effect of rolling, &c.—It was highly gratifying to us to find, in his experience, a general confirmation of the doctrines we have maintained on the subject of wheat-growing, in regard to once plowing, deep plowing, rust, &c., &c.

It may be remembered that we have said, that clover turned under shallow, would do more hurt than good, in a dry season, from the fact of there not being moisture

enough to promote decomposition. Mr. F. goes further, and says, that even when turned under deep, especially if the burden be heavy, it will sometimes aggravate the effect of drouth, unless an antidote be applied, and the reason he gives will readily commend itself to every man's good sense. It is simply this, that the buried clover occupies so much space, and lies so loose, that the moisture which would otherwise ascend by attraction from below, (in the manner we have described) is intercepted in its upward progress by the intervening layer which has thus been interposed, and which is not compact enough to afford a medium of communication from the earth below to the surface above.

To remedy this evil, he is in the habit of passing a heavy roller over his newly-sown fields, which presses down the loosened soil, and the spongy mass beneath it, and he had found it an effectual remedy.

Nor was this all—the effect of rolling all light and porous soils, he had found to be otherwise highly beneficial. He did not seem to understand the reason, but upon our suggesting, that it brought the soil more compactly around the roots, and gave them a better chance to take in their food, he seemed to think the explanation reasonable.—We have no doubt that every farmer would find his account in thoroughly rolling all such soils.

He related an instance which seemed to place the advantages of rolling in a striking light. A neighbor of his had made many attempts to raise barley, but had always failed signally on account of the drouth, and given up in despair. With much persuasion he prevailed upon him to make another experiment and try the roller thoroughly, and as the result, he had forty-three bushels to the acre.

Barley before Wheat.—Upon our saying to him, that our farmers were almost ready to abandon the culture of barley, from the effect of drouth upon it, he replied that it had been equally affected by drouth in the neighborhood where he lived, but that the application of the roller had been found an effectual remedy, and he added, that wheat seemed to do better after barley, than any other cultivated crop. A common rotation with him was to turn under clover and plant it to corn the first year, then plow it in the fall that it might settle down, and in the spring simply use the drag and the roller in putting in his barley, and when the barley came off, once plowing brought the soil into the very best condition for wheat, the drag or cultivator being again followed by the roller.

We asked him to what use so much barley could be converted, to which he replied, that there was great demand for it for making spirit gas, and added, that no kind of grain was better for fattening stock. True it was hard, and needed to be ground or crushed, and so did any other kind of grain to be profitably fed.—But thus treated, he would give more for it, pound for pound, for fattening animals, than for any other kind of grain.

Summer fallowing.—He gave the same reasons for eschewing summer-fallowing which we have given, viz: that the more the earth is turned, the more the evaporation of the organic elements of the soil is promoted. Upon the same principle, he said, it was, that a portion of soil covered with boards, or a thick coating of straw, for a season, always exhibited greatly increased fertili-

ty compared with the land around it which had not been thus treated. It will readily be seen that in this may consist the benefit of mulching. Not only is the evaporation of moisture thus prevented, but with it the volatilization and escape of important elements of nutrition.

Rust—effect of thick sowing.—On the subject of rust his experience also tallies with the reasonings and facts we have given. If we mistake not, it was from Gen. Williams, of Lima, Washtenaw Co., that we received the first suggestion in reference to thick sowing being a remedy for rust.

Mr. F. related some facts in his experience, which seem to be very much to the point. He has a field lying low, and covered with a deep mould, approaching to the nature of muck, and he had many times sown it to wheat, but never did the crop escape the rust. Observing that in the dead furrows, where the seed was collected in greater quantities than elsewhere, and as a consequence, the crop stood thicker, that the straw was bright, and the kernels plump, he was lead to sow the whole field thick, the next crop, putting on two and a half bushels to the acre, and it entirely escaped the rust. He has had several crops of wheat upon the same ground since, seeding it in the same manner and with the same result, no rust having made its appearance since he adopted the practice. Had the case been ours, we should have attributed the exemption from rust in the dead furrow, in part, at least, to a different cause, viz: greater accessibility to the mineral elements below. However, as we have said, the tendency of thick sowing is to send the roots downward. Look at a grove of forest trees, and compare their roots, in this respect with those of a single tree growing alone.

Preparation of Seed.—Mr. F. prepares his seed wheat by soaking it in strong brine, and then rolling it in plaster and lime. This he has found to be an immense benefit to the crop, and especially upon all lightish soils. It is the very manure which such lands need to give the young plant a vigorous and healthy growth. Land so treated, he said, would develop a broad, dark green leaf, and a field stocked with it, would exhibit a marked superiority over one by its side stocked with seed not thus prepared, all other things being equal—and so we have taught.

Beans and Peas.—Mr. F. said it was his practice to plant beans among his corn, between the hills, and at the same time, that he got just as much corn, he realized fifteen bushels of beans to the acre, which cost him but a mere trifle, and produced more profit to the acre than a good wheat crop. This is the way we were learned to raise beans in our young days, and we do not think there has been any improvement on it since. What a saving it is! No additional land is needed, and no additional culture, or scarcely none, and the harvesting and threshing involve but trifling labor and expense, compared with other crops, while there is generally a ready market, at about an average of a dollar a bushel.

And peas, too, he cultivates to a considerable extent and he has a way of getting up this crop for feed, which we think a great improvement. It is to harvest it just before the pea gets fully ripe, so that the pod will not open upon being dried, and feed the whole together, vine-pod and all. Nothing, he said, was better for sheep, and they would eat it all up to the last fragment.

Sheep.—He remarked that he could afford to pay thirty dollars per acre for land to raise wool upon, at three shillings per pound, and that he would make more money at that than to raise wheat. We think, however, that the one should not be contrasted with the other, as the two should go together. But if he could make wool-growing profitable to pay that price for land, how much more profitable should it be to our farmers, who pay scarcely half of it. He said we had the advantage of the New York farmers, not only in the price of land, but in the quality. It was a strange fact, he said, that sheep driven from the State of New York to Michigan, produced wool here, which would command a higher price than wool from the same sheep, and in the same state of the market would have brought in the State of New York.

Mr. F. remarked that every thing of the grain kind raised upon a farm, except the flour of wheat, should be fed out upon it.

I scarcely need add, that Mr. F. goes home with the determination to sell out and remove to Michigan.

PICKINGS BY THE WAY—NO. II.

BY THE EDITOR.

In the casual conversations we had with friends at the Hillsdale County Fair, at Jonesville, some things were dropped, which we took the trouble to pick up.

Wool-growing.—Mr. Miller, of Moscow, alluded to the fact, expatiated upon by our friend from the State of New York, viz: that Michigan wool had the preference in the market over Eastern wool, and that buyers passed by the New York wool-growers, and notwithstanding the expense of transportation, actually paid us a higher price for wool than was paid in that State. The preference was given to it by buyers, because the quality was superior—it was softer, had a better gloss, and made more cloth, pound for pound, than the N. Y. wool.

He mentioned the name of a wealthy farmer in the State of New York, who sent the poorest portion of his flock of sheep into this State, to be kept, and the fleeces, or a portion of them, were returned to him. These fleeces were kept separate from those of that portion of his flock which he retained at home. These latter the buyer examined first, and then passed to the portion from Michigan, when he exclaimed at once, "What's here? I have got hold of a superior lot of wool here"—and yet it was from the poorest portion of the same flock of sheep.

Pea Culture.—Mr. Homan, of Wright township, thinks from his experience, that the pea crop would be a profitable one for our farmers. He gets from 15 to 20 bushels to the acre, and he says peas are better than corn, bushel for bushel, for fattening hogs. He simply soaks them before feeding. He sows from a bushel and a half to two and a half, and even three bushels to the acre, according to the quality of the soil. In strong rich soil, they will tiller out and spread over the ground like wheat.

And then the ground is left in so nice a state for wheat, much better than summer-fallowing would prepare it.

Preserving Potatoes.—Rev. Mr. Buck said to us, that last year his potatoes seemed to be all going with the rot, but he arrested it by the following expedient. They had been dug and lay under shelter, and as the process of decomposition was going on, and the most offensive effluvia arising from them, he threw a quantity of common plaster

ter upon them, about half a barrel of it to twenty bushels of potatoes, which arrested the putrifying process at once, and the remainder of his potatoes were saved.

Potatoe Culture.—In the afternoon of the last day of the fair, we accepted an invitation to ride home and take tea with our friend Beebe, of Hillsdale.

More about Wheat Culture.—Last summer, Mr. Tyler, in common with others, was arrested, in the midst of his summer-fallowing by the drouth, an evil which we have spoken of as often falling upon our farmers, when that great, toilsome, and expensive operation is going on. As a consequence, the work was abandoned, and the remaining ground destined for the wheat crop, was put in with one plowing; and now the wheat upon that portion is fully equal to that upon the summer-fallowed portion. The field, we think, had lain over without seeding.

Mr. T. is fully convinced that the labor expended in summer-fallowing, as we have so strenuously maintained, is all thrown away. Many deem it absolutely necessary upon a stiff clay soil, and it may be of service, especially on undrained clays, but a clod crusher, such as we saw in England, and which we will take some opportunity to describe, would be far more effective.

Mr. T. said some of his neighbors had tried once plowing, and pronounced it a failure; but he had ascertained that they plowed shallow, and the grass and weeds, instead of being entirely covered up as they are by deep plowing, showed themselves between each furrow, the whole length of the field, and of course they grew up and choked out the wheat crop.

Putting in Wheat with the Gang Plow.—Mr. T. showed us a field of wheat which was put in with the gang plow, there being four small shares to the implement. The wheat looked fine, and stood in rows, almost as though it had been drilled in. He thinks there is an advantage in thus putting it in. In the first place, all the seed is saved, and then it is buried so deep that he regards it as much more secure against winter-killing. With four shares such a breadth is taken, that the process of covering is quite an expeditious one.—He did not compare its advantages with those of the drill, which are claimed to be the same.

Swine.—In the swine department, Mr. T. certainly has something above the common order of the great hog family to show. His breed is a cross of the Leicester and By-field breeds, borrowing size from the former, and compactness and fattening qualities from the latter. They are very large and at the same time fat ten readily. We know not when we have seen a finer lot of last spring pigs. He killed one we think last year, which weighed 750 pounds; we do not remember whether two or three years old. We should not think it would be difficult to make them weigh six or seven hundred at two years old.

Mr. T. said they were remarkable for the thickness of their meat, the cavity within being very small.—The grass breeds, on the other hand, he remarked, while they swelled out, and presented the appearance of an immense depth of fat, were thin sided, the cavity within being very large.

This fine farm is located upon a rising ground, west,

we believe, of the beautiful village of Hillsdale, which it adjoins and overlooks, as does also friend Beebe's beautiful location.

Strong Meat.—Among the readers of our agricultural journals, are generally a few who have a craving for strong meat, while the mass of them require to be fed with milk, for the most part. In the management of the Farmer, we have endeavored to adapt its instructions, as far as possible, to both. It would have suited our own taste to have given much more scientific matter, and this would doubtless have been very acceptable to a class of our readers; but we have probably given as much as the mass of them could bear, until we can initiate them a little more into its mysteries. We endeavor, when we can, to give science and practice together, to exhibit the beauty and utility of science in its practical exemplifications. In this way, a pill may be prepared that will go down without exciting much nausea, even with the most fastidious, and by and by they will come to like it.

This is the most profitable way of teaching science, and yet it is a way which does not gain much credit with a certain class, who seem to run away with the notion, that nothing can be scientific which people can understand. To excite the admiration of these people, something must be got up so abstruse, that it is entirely beyond their depth, and which the author himself can give no account of, for the good reason, that he knows nothing about it himself.

MICHIGAN CHEESE.

We have before us a specimen of Michigan cheese, presented us by Mr. A. Streeter, of Bruce, Macomb Co. which, if they had it in England, would pass current for Cheshire cheese.

Six years ago, neither Mr. Streeter nor his wife, knew anything about cheese-making, and they have learned the art entirely from the published account of the process of cheese-making, as practised in Jefferson Co., New York. And we have made him promise to communicate, for the benefit of the readers of the Farmer, the secret of his success. When a fair proportion of our lands shall be laid to grass, (as the wheat-growing interest requires,) it is to be hoped the attention of our farmers will be turned, to some extent, to dairying, at all events, sufficiently to wipe out the disgrace of being tributary to the States of Ohio and New York, for a great portion of our supplies of cheese to this day. Is it not shameful?

Mr. S. has been offered eight cents per pound for the entire product of his dairy. We understood him to say that he is alone in his glory, there not being another cheese dairy in the region.

We would here say, that we received, at the State Fair, a specimen of very superior maple sugar, crystalized and clarified to a high degree, and as fit for any use as lump or loaf sugar. From whom it came, we never knew, but suspect, from some circumstances, that it was from friend Ingerson, of Delta, Eaton Co.; at any rate, we will set it down to his account.

SUBSTITUTE FOR HAY.

Gen. Williams, of Lima, Washtenaw Co., has a plan which he thinks will relieve the farmers of much of the burden of wintering stock. It consists in substituting cut straw and roots for hay, which he contends would be much cheaper, and answer the purpose quite as well. We understood him to say, that he had been revolving in his mind the plan of a straw-cutter which would do a sort of wholesale business in the chopping line, that farmers might have something adapted to the new order of things which such a revolution in cattle diet would bring about, and which he hopes to present to the public in due time, in a state of completeness.

Multitudes of cattle are dieted in this way in England, and they like it, esteeming it indeed a great luxury. Many there chop up both hay and straw, almost to a state of pulverization, and it is all eaten up clean. Their machines for the purpose, are, many of them, operated by steam or horse power, this being one out of the many uses to which it is put.

And it pays well to chop hay in this manner, the saving overbalancing the expense by two times two. What a wicked waste is made of hay by the ordinary mode of feeding!

And straw chopped up, and seasoned and sweetened with turnips, is devoured with manifest satisfaction, by all sorts of stock, and with financial results equally satisfactory to the farmer. The breadth of land necessarily devoted to meadow on every properly stocked farm, must be very considerable; but if a good substitute for hay is found in this expedient, all that land may be devoted to other purposes, which would be equivalent to adding a considerable share of its entire value to the available capital of the farmer.

CULTURE OF CRANBERRIES.

We were shown some cranberries the other day by Mrs. Thurber, of this city, which exhibited the manifest advantages to be derived from the cultivation of this favorite fruit. They were raised by the Rev. Mr. Crabb, of Lenawee county, upon a strip of low ground ordinarily termed a swail, which was simply turned over, and the cranberries sown broad-cast upon it.—They present a striking contrast to a specimen of the fruit shown at the same time which had grown in a wild state, being two or three times as large. They were sown in the fall, and the vines bore fruit the next season.

We have no doubt that our farmers would find their account in turning their attention, to some extent, to this subject. Some successful experiments are said to have been made upon upland, but low, moist land, is doubtless the best. The common method has been to transplant them, taking them from their native beds, early in the spring, setting them in rows, 18 or 20 inches apart, and cultivating them the first season, after which they spread and cover the ground, and need no further attention, yielding from two to three hundred bushels to the acre. Sowing the seed, however, involves much less labor, and it may be that the plant would be hardier, and less liable to winter-killing.—

In their watery home in their wild state, their roots are protected from the effects of frost, and upon being transplanted to upland, or land which does not overflow in winter, they are subjected to an ordeal of hard freezing, which is said to be often fatal. It seems, that in the case spoken of above, the plant, tho' in the tenderness of infancy, was endowed with a vigor of constitution which carried it safely through.

Cranberries always command a ready sale, being seldom less than a dollar a bushel, and often double that amount. That their culture, to a certain extent, would be more profitable than most crops, we have no doubt.

WONDERFUL IMPROVEMENT.

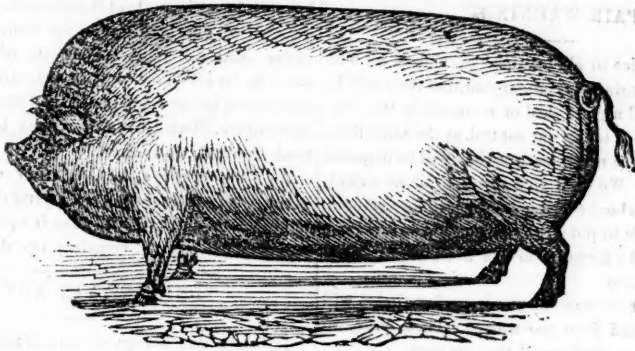
When we were in England, it was often said that the American reaping machine needed one other appendage to it to make it a perfect implement,—that it should rake as well as reap, and deliver the gavels ready for binding,—an improvement which they predicted would soon be made in England. Well, they set themselves to tinkering, and tinkered away upon it a whole year, and professed to have made wonderful improvements, without attempting to put a rake to it after all; but they turned out to be no improvements at all, from all we could learn.

But scarcely had we time to cast about us, after arriving home, on the last day of our state fair, before our attention was called to the improvement in question, as exhibited upon the ground by our brother Wright of the Prairie Farmer. There it was in all its perfection, filling up the defect which had been the subject of so much talk, and rendering the implement complete.

We know not when we have been so much interested in the results of any mechanical improvement. In seeing it operate, one can scarcely keep down the thought, that it is animated with the vital principle.—Suppose it to have two arms, one long, the other short. Suppose that they have just dropped a gavel in good order, directly behind the reaper; and now, while the long arm reaches around, describing the quarter of a circle, drops its fingers upon the platform, and draws the fallen grain across it, the other so adjusts its hand, that the gavel is pressed between the two, but it lies the wrong way, and has got to be turned around, and thrust back a little, before it can be dropped, and this is accomplished almost instantaneously, by the revolving machinery, which is very simple in its construction. It is said to leave the gavels in far better order for binding, than when they are raked off by hand.

MOWING MACHINE.

At the Kalamazoo Fair, Judge Webster called our attention to a Mowing Machine, which he has had in operation upon his farm, manufactured by Howard, we think, of Buffalo. He says it works admirably, (as we should judge from its appearance it would,) cutting from eight to twelve acres per day, and leaving the grass evenly spread for drying. He has mowed a hundred and twenty acres with it the past season. Upon marshes he says it cuts its way right through the bogs or protuberances with some little hesitation, leaving a level surface for future operations.



IMPROVED MIDDLESEX HOG.

The above cut represents an Improved Middlesex Hog (a cross of the Suffolk and Middlesex) such as we saw at the great annual show of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, at Windsor, in 1851. It is so good a representation that we have been induced to copy it from the N. E. Farmer. This breed is remarkable for early maturity, and, for taking on fat with comparatively little food. The above is a specimen of the perfection of symmetry attained in the science of breeding on the other side of the water.

OUR AGRICULTURAL EXCHANGES.

Welcome, thrice welcome to our table, our many esteemed cotemporaries, with whom we are most happy to renew our acquaintance.

The Albany Cultivator and *Genesee Farmer*, are, we believe, the oldest of our agricultural papers. They have done good service in the cause, and are deserving of all honor, not only as veteran pioneers, but for the high character they have continued to sustain, in competition with the numerous compeers which have risen up around them.

The American Farmer at Baltimore is, we believe, nearly or quite as old in the service, and deserves well of its constituency, to whose wants it is more especially adapted, and for whom it labors with ability and untiring devotion.

The Maine Farmer always has some useful lesson to teach us, and it has the merit of saying things well.

The American Agriculturist has died and risen again in the form of "*The Plow*," and of course it has undergone a renovating process—excellent.

The New England Farmer is up with its cotemporaries in pleasing and instructive variety.

The Working Farmer, works out some pretty knotty problems, and is not wanting in practical application.

The Boston Cultivator, always has something good to say, and caters well to a whole miscellany of appetites.

The Farmer and Mechanic, opens a new world upon us, in the wonderful objects of invention and discovery, with a spice of agricultural and horticultural intelligence.

The Ohio Cultivator is an efficient and able help-mate to the cause, and could ill be spared from the field.

The Prairie Farmer is the pride of the Prairie State, and takes rank with our best agricultural journals.

The Valley Farmer, (St. Louis) still maintains the struggle, and is pushing forward with vigor and effect.

The Wisconsin Farmer is battling manfully in the cause and the dispute between it and the difficulties with which it is in conflict, seems in a fair way to be settled in its favor.

The Rural New Yorker occupies an honorable position as an agricultural and miscellaneous journal. *The Wool Grower* too, does good service in its sphere.

The Horticulturist, though bereaved of its distinguished and lamented editor, still maintains its unrivalled character.

The Cincinnati Horticultural Review is all over in the cause, plying its task with ability and enthusiastic devotion.

These are all the old acquaintances we have yet seen. Of the generation which has been born into this world of trouble during the eighteen months of our absence, the following have come to hand, and we are most happy to make their acquaintance.

The Journal of Agriculture, hailing from Boston, walks right into the front rank at once. Mapes and King can make any thing go.

The Ohio Farmer, from Cleveland, appears quite at home in the Agricultural and Miscellaneous world, and is an able and efficient co-laborer.

The Indiana Farmer, from Richmond, puts in a fair claim to the support of the farmers of Indiana.

The Union Artist, from Pittsburgh, a Magazine, is an honor to the Quaker State, commending itself alike to the Agriculturist, Horticulturist and Mechanic.

The American Gardener's Chronicle, from New York, does honor to its name.

The Northern Farmer, from Utica, a goodly, and well filled sheet.

The Green Mountain Cultivator, from Middlebury, Vt., is full of interest and promise.

The New England Cultivator, has an honorable position in the Boston galaxy.

FAIR WARNING.

We give due notice to all our readers, and to all who may become such, during the coming year, that there will be many mistakes, and a great deal of nonsense in the Farmer, while it remains under our control, at the same time, that it will contain as much truth as they will be disposed to put in practice. We shall give them, to some extent, the chaff and the wheat together, taking it for granted, that they have mills to put it through and separate the one from the other. The farmer who has not such a mill, is not fit for his vocation.

Do you say, that no man has one so perfect that it will separate all the chaff from the wheat? Then, pray, do not blame us if some chaff passes through ours.

We do not expect our columns to exhibit a larger dash of Tom foolery, than those of other agricultural papers, but we say these things for the special benefit of any individual, who may hurry himself to the conclusion, that if the Farmer is not far superior to its contemporaries in this respect, it is to be condemned as unworthy of confidence.

There are those in this world of ours, who seem to think, that to be reliable authority, a man must be a perfect *plodder*. If he is graphic in his descriptions, that is, describes things just as they are, presenting them to the minds of others just as he saw them himself, with all the freshness and power of a present reality, "O, he is fanciful, he is fanciful," so that the more true he is in fact to his subject, the less credit he gets for it with this class of persons.

On the other hand, you may take a perfect clodpole, dull and prosy, who has not the capacity to half describe what he undertakes, and "he is a *matter-of-fact* man, *reliable authority*," with these same persons, so that in fact, the less of truth there is in his descriptions, the more credit he gets with them. A hundred errors, of the grossest kind, will not depreciate his testimony in their esteem, half as much as a single trivial one will, in the writer whose descriptions are true to his subject.

It is true, indeed, that the imaginative faculties may be unduly developed, but it is also true of every well balanced mind, that while it has the capacity clearly to *perceive*, it has an equal capacity vividly to *describe* whatever object may come under its observation, the one being the natural consequence of the other.

Hence the delusion, that an intricate and mazy writer must be a man of immense depth, moving in a region of thought above and beyond the comprehension of ordinary mortals, when, in fact, his intricacy and mazziness are the result of his own confusion of ideas. Having no clear ideas himself of the subject of his thoughts, he can convey none to others.

But we have been led on strangely, and yet we have not wandered far from our design.

A FOUR REASON.

Some of our old correspondents have given a very poor reason for the falling off in their communications in our absence. One says, (and it is but a specimen of others,) "Your readers have been so much interested in your varied and racy correspondence, that I have not thought it worth while to write. You

have given us important information on almost all subjects, as we expected from your announcement in advance, and although the subject of agriculture only came in for its share of your attention, still you have given us a better view of the real condition of British agriculture, than I have ever seen before, and I have read Coleman and others."

As we said above, we think our correspondent has given a very poor reason for laying down his pen, and if he does not reform and take it up again, and all the rest of them, we will certainly lay down ours.

TRUE, AND YET NOT TRUE.

It is true that foreign systems of agriculture are not applicable to the case of our farmers, and yet it is not true. To follow them blindly, without exercising one's own judgement, would be just as foolish, and calamitous, as it would be to follow blindly without the exercise of reason every thing that is recommended in our agricultural journals, and no more. So that if we throw away foreign agriculture as useless to us, for the same reason we must throw away our own agricultural journals.

It is true, that those systems are in advance of us, but that is not a reason why we should cast them from us any more than it would be a reason why we should cast from us our own agricultural publications, for how could we learn anything from either, if they were not in advance of us?

They have the same varieties of soil in the old world, as in the new. They have sandy, clayey, and calcareous soils, just as we have here. Their soils are composed of the same elements, mineral and organic, which are found by analysis to enter into the composition of our own soils. When the soil loses its fertility there by the exhaustion of one or more of these elements, it is restored by manure containing the deficient element, or elements, just as we restore our exhausted lands.

Because thousands upon thousands, are thrown away there upon experiments in high farming, which either never refund the outlay, or, if they do, are too expensive to be within the reach of our means, is that a reason why we should not avail ourselves of improvements which are within the reach of our means, come they from what source they may? Certainly not.

And the same of stock—how are we to improve our breeds of animals, but upon the same principles, which have been so successfully applied in the old world?

To say then, that systems of foreign agriculture are not applicable to the case of our farmers, is true indeed, and yet there is involved a palpable untruth.

Whatever be our business in life, it is important that we have before us the best model. Tho' we may come far short of them, for lack of means, yet by keeping an eye upon them, we shall be likely to accomplish far more than if we had no such standard to elevate our views.

At the same time, there is much in foreign farming which is imitable by our farmers, and applicable to their case, and by a wise discrimination, may readily be made available. Should they reject it because there are some other things appertaining to it, which are not imitable by them, nor applicable to their case, and of course cannot be made available—that would be very foolish, childish—so—would it not?

For the Michigan Farmer.
LETTER FROM AN ENGLISHMAN.

OAKLAND COUNTY, October 5th. 1852.

MR. ISHAM:—

I write to enclose a dollar for the Farmer, and congratulate you on your safe return. Some of your English readers have been made "hopping mad" by your letters from England, but not many, and they will all get over it, as I have, in a little while. I confess I was a little riled at first, and yet I knew, that every word you uttered, was the truth, and nothing but the truth, and I wish I could add, *the whole truth*, and that nothing more could be said.

I am attached to my native land, and have always felt indignation whenever it is spoken against in my presence, although I knew what was spoken to be the truth. That is a natural feeling with us all. Your statements are all based upon facts open to the observation of all, and they cannot be successfully denied. I suppose it was the mortification of my national pride which made me angry, but I have gotten gloriously over it. And now, I would say to all my brother Englishmen, who have winced under the *scathing* inflictions of your pen, cool down, be candid, and admit what cannot be denied, although it may be a little mortifying.

I would say in conclusion, that your descriptions of British institutions, British society, manners and customs, have been discriminatingly truthful, and graphic, and evince great power of observation. You have my best wishes for your continued success.

Most truly yours,

A — R —.

P. S. I am glad you have so increased the reading matter of the Farmer by the substitution of fine type, that you can give us in your correspondence, much information on other important subjects, and still give much more agricultural matter than you did before, and much more than we find in most of our Mouthlies, and all without any increase of price.

Yours, &c.,

A — R —.

REMARKS BY THE EDITOR.—We are by no means surprised to learn, that some of our English friends should have had their sensibilities somewhat touched by the freedom of remark in which we have indulged on the institutions, &c., of the land of their birth, and of their lingering affections. It would certainly not be much to their credit, if it were not so.

To such we would say, that it was scarcely *less* painful to our own feelings to draw such a portraiture, and we did not, until we were compelled. We landed in England with a heart greatly biased in its favor. There, as we have said, were the graves of our ancestors, and with some from that country't may weigh something to inform them, that we found those ancestors occupied a position, not among what are there regarded as the *ignoble* laboring classes, nor yet even with the middle class, and you may add to this, that we were treated with much civility by all classes of the people, from the highest to the lowest, for we mingled more or less with them all. Why should we not then feel disposed to speak well of England?—We did feel so, and you will bear us witness, that our first letters from that country were rather in the strain of panegyric. And it was not until further observation had

enlightened us in reference to the grinding oppressions of the poor, and the sad influence for evil which fell upon all the lower orders from above, that we felt constrained to speak disparagingly of the institutions of the country.—And how could we do less, without being a traitor to humanity?

We are happy to learn, however, that most of our English readers are disposed to look upon the matter with much indulgence. Nearly all of them indeed pronounce all we have said to be the truth, and among the large number, who have objected the publication of our letters in a book form, not less than a dozen English, and among them one of the most earnest, is our friend Hawley, the large English brewer of Detroit. He says they contain too much truth to be lost.

As an offset to all this, however, it is but candid to admit, that we have met with one instance of a very different character. Soon after our return, an Englishman stepped up to us, and with an air of *lordly* consequence, demanded to know of us, if we would sell out; dictating the terms to us to suit his own *large* views, and intimating, that he had taken advantage of our absence to get up an interest against us and in favor of a rival paper, so that the alternative was thrown upon us, either to sell out or be upset. We smiled in his face, and coolly replied to him, in substance, that we would submit the matter to the people of the Peninsular State.

☞ We have been mortified, beyond measure, to notice the mutilated form in which, in our absence, our letters have been published, the errors, sometimes, making us absolutely ridiculous. In one instance, we were made to pass through the kitchen to get into a French Hotel; whereas, nothing could be farther from what we said, and this is only a single instance out of multitudes, almost equally aggravating. This is one consideration which has induced us to yield to the many pressing solicitations of our friends, to publish them in book form. With the corrections, and the unpublished material which would be added to them, they would scarcely be recognized as the same. It is with reluctance we refer to the subject, but justice to ourselves seemed to require it. No blame is charged.

We may add, that more than one hundred letters, written in countries which embraced the most interesting part of our Eastern tour, have never been published in the Farmer at all, and will not be.

OUR COUNTY NEWSPAPERS.—We are glad to see the improvement which has been made in our county newspapers, many of which are conducted with talent, and decorum, and are decidedly superior to the flat, insipid things which are published in some considerable cities in England.

THE CHRISTIAN HERALD, has been enlarged and improved in our absence, and has gained a high standing under the management of its present editor, Rev. Mr. Harris, whose good sense, vivacity: its ease of diction, and everlasting good nature, make him a general favorite.

WHAT A CHANGE!

It is pleasing to contemplate the change which has taken place in the circumstances of our farmers within the last few years. The time is quite within our recollection, when most of them were deeply involved in debt, and when they toiled on, and toiled on, year after year, and year after year, only to meet a disappointment of their hopes. No sooner did they recover from the effects of one calamity, than they were doomed to fall before another, until it really seemed as though there was no hope for Michigan. Scarcely had they surmounted the difficulties and privations incident to the first settlement of the country, when they were doomed to see their rising hopes cast down for two or three years in succession, by the depredations of the Hessian fly. Upon the heel of this protracted calamity, came the general crash of wild cat banks, which seemed to fill up the measure of their woes—but not so; two dreadful years of sickness followed, strength failed, as well as heart, and many a farmer's domain was well nigh given up to desolation.

That was a sad and dreary page in their history. It was a time that tried men's souls; stout hearts quailed, strong arms lost their wonted energies, and all drooped and languished, under the paralyzing influence.

But what a change! What a happy reverse in the circumstances of our farmers! For the last few years, no insect has been sent among us, upon its errand of destruction, little has been suffered from failing banks, while no general sickness has visited our borders. Blessed with health, good crops, and, for the most part, remunerative prices, most of our farmers have risen from embarrassment, privation, and deep discouragement, to circumstances of competence and comfort. They are no longer the forlorn beings they once were, drooping and languishing under their calamities, with scarcely energy enough left to drag themselves to their task. Instead, we meet them now with smiling faces, and all their energies have come back upon them afresh, under the invigorating influence of hope.

It has been highly gratifying to us to witness the improvement which has been made during the eighteen months of our absence from the country, improvement in farm buildings, in stock, in general husbandry, and in the comforts and enjoyments of life. May the spirit of improvement which has thus been waked up among us, continue to carry forward our farmers in their noble career, until our Peninsula shall hold a conspicuous rank among the States of our glorious Union.

WHAT STRIDES WE ARE MAKING?

Other causes than those above enumerated, have had no little agency in bringing about the pleasing reverse which has taken place in the circumstances of our farmers, within the past few years. It is not to the simple exemption from the calamities to which they were subject for a series of years, that they owe their present state of advancement. Much of it is due to the spirit of improvement which is abroad among us.

Judge Webster, of Kalamazoo, remarked to us, the other day, that the expense of wheat-growing, had been diminished about one half, within the last few

years; and he went on to specify the improvements by which this result had been achieved. In the first place, once plowing had been proved to be as good as twice or thrice plowing, the use of the cultivator not being required much more in preparing the ground, than the drag used to be under the old system. The expense of putting in, was equally curtailed by the use of the drill, and then the reaping machine did its work at nearly an equal discount on former rates. The expense of threshing had also been materially diminished.

It is true, that the benefit of these improvements has not been very generally diffused; but, as far as they have been adopted, they have contributed wonderfully to the prosperity of our farmers.

Only think! While the price of wheat is at least twenty-five per cent higher than it used to be, the cost of its production has been diminished nearly or quite one half. What a prodigious difference these two items must make in the upshot of the farmer's profits; to say nothing of exemption from calamity!

Nor is this the only branch of agriculture which has been benefitted by improvements? In another place we have spoken of the mowing machine which we saw at the Kalamazoo fair, and which cuts from eight to twelve acres in a day, and leaves it evenly spread upon the ground; and of the revolving horse rake which gathers it into winrow at the rate of an acre (we think) in thirty minutes. Mr. W. remarked, that with the use of the mowing machine and horse rake, and by roping in the winrows, Mr. Gilkey, of Gull Prairie, estimated that he could cut, cure, rake, and remove to his barn, hay at three shillings per ton.

But what does roping mean? Well, it means just this—having placed a horse by the side of the winrow, at one end, with his head toward the other end, fasten one end of the rope to the harness on one side of him, and then, passing it around the end of the winrow, fasten the other end to the harness on the other side, and bid him go ahead; yourself, in the mean time bearing gently upon the rope, behind, if necessary to keep it in its place. In this way, a winrow of considerable length, may be swept off entire directly to the barn; small barns being located at convenient distances in the meadow. This may be thought, perhaps, rather an uncouth and slovenly way of removing hay from the field, but if it puts money in one's pocket, that is quite sufficient to confer dignity and decorum upon the operation.

The use of the mowing machine and rake alone, effect at least a saving of one hundred per cent in the expense of the hay harvest, an item which will swell into no insignificant amount, when our farmers shall come to have two thirds of their tillable land constantly in grass, as they will and must, to make farming permanently profitable.

And there are many other improvements of which we might go on to speak. And if we look abroad over our state, we shall see that those farmers who have adopted them, are getting far ahead of those who have not. How important then that efforts be made to disseminate information among the mass, and to try to arouse them to a sense of the loss they are sustaining, and the privileges they are foregoing.

EDUCATIONAL.

NOTES, &c.

BY THE EDITOR.

EDUCATION IN THE OLD WORLD AND NEW.

Of the many gratifying improvements which have been made during our absence from the country, none rank higher in importance than those which pertain to the educational interest. And of these none should occupy a higher place in the regards of our people, than the establishment, and successful opening career of our State Normal School at Ypsilanti.—A magnificent building for its accommodation, delightfully located, has recently been dedicated, under circumstances of extraordinary interest, and this very season, in the infancy of its being, it has sent out two hundred young men to be employed as teachers of our youth.

Our young and rising State stands pre-eminent among the States of the Union for its educational privileges, the State of New York alone having taken this great step, as it has some others before us.

O, how many times, amid the abominations of the Old World, have our thoughts fled away to this land of hope and of promise, and how have our rising emotions settled down again, as the reflection came rolling back upon us, that the mass of our people had no appreciating sense of the privileges they enjoy, or of the high trust committed to their keeping. And how often have we coveted gifts of utterance equal to the task of impressing our convictions, warmed into activity by what we saw, upon every living soul throughout the length and breadth of our land; and especially in reference to the importance of the universal and right education of our youth!

Superstition and ignorance are the great bulwarks of despotism in the old world, while a virtuous education is the very corner stone of our political fabric.—And what a sight it is for Heaven to look down upon, to see a great people, rising up under its own auspices, deliberately taking the reins of government into their own hands, and guiding it safely, quietly, and triumphantly, through all difficulties, to a glorious destiny, while the masses in all the world besides, under the combined influence of superstition, ignorance and vice, basely bow their necks to the heel of power, and grovel out a miserable existence, as passive, under their burdens, as the donkey or the mule!

And when aroused from their lethargic condition by the stirring eloquence of some master spirit, as though looking through a glass darkly, and seeing men as trees walking, they give themselves up to blind impulses, in pursuit of an object of which they have no distinct conception, and thus, by their wild extravagancies and fatal collapses, bring disgrace upon the sacred name of freedom.

Nor have they any desire, but, on the other hand, an aversion, to be waked out of their long and deep political sleep, the operation being a painful one to them, like that of restoring a drowning man to life.—And the idea of being subjected to the task of govern-

ing themselves, is driven from their thoughts as a disturber of their peace, that burden of responsibility having been kindly borne for them, all their lives long. Under the operation of universal suffrage in republican (?) France, the late elections were declared void in twenty or thirty Departments, for lack of a constitutional number of votes, not one fourth part of the voters, in some instances, appearing at the polls.

And even among the most enlightened and wisest of them all, when they get together to deliberate upon the great subject of self-government, how like children they act! How limited their views, how imperfect their conceptions, and how feeble their action, as tho' they did not know what to say or what to do. As an instance, witness the deliberations of the great diet at Frankfort, composed of delegates from the various German States, and embracing some of the wisest heads in all Europe.

And what a contrast, what a glorious contrast to all this, does our country present? And how important is it, how unspeakably important, that this contrast should be vividly impressed upon the youthful mind,—that the genius of our institutions as contrasted with those of the old world, should be understood and appreciated by all our youth.

The object, aim, and end, the scope and design, of all education in the old world, is to impress upon the youthful mind sentiments of awe for institutions, venerable with the dust of centuries, which rob their humanity of its high aspirations, and give them a place in the scale of being, not a little lower than the angels, but a little higher than the brutes.

And should it be less the object, aim and end, the scope and design of the education of the youth of our country, to prepare them to act well their part under a system of government, which, standing out in bold contrariety to all this, assigns to man the high position of a rational and accountable being, and confers upon him a crown more enviable than the diadem of the despot!

Surely, no subject which can occupy the attention of our people, is more important to the stability and perpetuity of our institutions, than this one. And, would we transmit the sacred trust which we hold, in confidence and hope, to the generation that is to come after us, to be by them transmitted in like manner in their turn—in a word, would we have our institutions planted on foundations firm and enduring, then must we have an educational system whose foundations are equally firm and enduring, and one which shall extend its blessings to every child in the republic—a system, which shall so develop the moral and intellectual powers of the youth of our country, in all time to come, as to make them the safe depositories of a trust so sacred. That is what we want and must have, or our sun which has risen so gloriously upon the world, will go out in darkness, and the sacred name of liberty be bandied as a bye-word among the tyrants of the earth.

Some of the ablest writers in the state have promised contributions to our educational department.—We want all who feel interested in the subject to contribute their mites.

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

NOTES, &c.

BY THE EDITOR.

AMERICAN AND ENGLISH LADIES.

Our attention has been called to the fact, that we have made some sort of a promise to give to our fair readers the results of our observation in reference to the comparative merits of their transatlantic sisters. Gladly would we be spared the task, but as we have laid ourselves under some sort of obligation, we will proceed to discharge it to the best of our ability, that is, in a short way, not forgetting, that we are between two fires, being exposed to a brisk canonade from both our American and English female friends.

We must confess, that we had been told so much in advance about the superiority of English women, that we crossed the Atlantic in the expectation of finding an order of female character there, far superior to any thing the Western Hemisphere has to show. Even friend Peters of Buffalo, to whose judgment in most matters we would bow in respectful silence, was as full of this idea as he could hold.

The jilt of the conversation we had with the English gentleman and lady on our passage over, may be fresh in the memories of some. Their great objection to American ladies, it will be remembered, was, that they were too sentimental, so much so as to be unfitted to discharge the sober duties, and meet the stern realities of life.

From this objection, it is true, English females are comparatively exempt. They seldom faint, and we did not observe such a thing as a *smelling bottle* in all England, Scotland, Ireland, or Wales, nor any where on the whole continent of Europe, nor in Africa, or Asia, nor any where else, till we got into the cars at Jersey City, when, O dear! a lady tapped us gently from behind, and asked us to run with her smelling bottle to the other end of the car and give it to a lady who was fainting. *Run, run,* said she, which we did with all the flutteration the case required, but lo! and behold! when we arrived at the interesting spot, there were a dozen other smelling bottles presented at the same time, and besides, she had one of her own, so that the luxury of resuscitating the dear creature, was snatched from us, and we almost pouted, as we walked slowly and moodily back.

Well, what of all that? Does that show the superiority of the English female character? Not in our estimation. Nor, on the other hand, does it show the superiority of the American female character. The truth is, the one is on one extreme, and the other on the opposite. The English female may be more accomplished in manner, but she lacks the refinement of feeling which characterizes American females, and which, when properly regulated, is the glory of the sex. An English lady will often say things which would put an American lady to the blush to hear, and it is thought no impropriety, because the sensibility has never been attuned to such delicate perceptions.


We would say then, that a perfect female character (humanly speaking) is to be looked for between the two extremes, and for examples of it, we proudly refer to multitudes of our fair country women, in whom the sensibilities are so nicely poised, as to give them all the play which is befitting a creature of the affections, and at the same time render them secure against the morbid and calamitous extreme, in the indulgence of which so many are victimised.

In the old world, there is more accomplishment of manner, but far less refinement of feeling, in both sexes, and among all classes, than with us. Being, to a great extent, destitute of it themselves, they cannot of course duly appreciate it in our people, even where it is properly ballanced. They call it a mawkish, simpering sentimentality, while they themselves, on the other hand, are chargeable with a decided comparative coarseness of feeling.

We must confess, however, that as house-wives, the women of the middle classes in England, (who are not above labor) are in some respects, superior to the women of our own country. They are brought up to business, and industry, order, and thoroughness, are general characteristics among them, and they ply their daily task with cheerful and uncomplaining assiduity. They do multitudes of things which, in this country, would be thought inappropriate to the sex. They have the entire charge of most of the Hotels, inasmuch that often the traveller would not know, that there was a man about the house, so little does he concern himself with the management of matters. In many of the shops too they seem to be the principals, and the men their subordinates. They are, many of them, adepts in book keeping, and shrewd in financial operations, connected with their vocation.—This gives them a masculine character, which does not so well chime in with our notions of things. They are withal generally the very pictures of health, fresh, ruddy, cheerful, and often beautiful.

If we descend to the lower classes of females, we find them, in the towns, in the lower grade of beer shops, and living out at service for any pittance which may be given them, and in the country, we see them in the field toiling at the spade, the mattock, and the hoe—and all of them, in town and country, looking forward to the poor house as their final home.

Many other things crowd upon us for utterance, but we cannot say them now.

 We respectfully invite our female correspondents, whose communications have, in former times, graced the pages of the Farmer, to resume their pleasant duties, for pleasant it surely must be, to an amiable nature, to contribute to the enjoyment and well-being of others.

For the Michigan Farmer.

TO MAKE HOP YEAST BREAD.

The yeast is prepared thus:—Pour boiling water on well-kept hops, cover closely and let it simmer, (but not boil) long enough to extract the aroma of the hops, then strain on middlings or flour, stirring until perfectly smooth; it should be quite stiff. To ferment it add a small quantity of yeast, of any kind to commence it, then reserve a little of the old to raise freshly prepared yeast.

To keep it, make strong brine enough to cover it, pour it on the yeast after it is light, and throw in a little salt. Prepared in this way, it will keep perfectly

sweet for six or eight weeks, if kept in a cool place.—To make the bread, pour very hot water on flour, and stir it into a smooth paste, then stir in cold water and flour enough to reduce the heat to the warmth of new milk; for each loaf, add one table spoonfull of yeast.

A HOUSEWIFE.

For the Michigan Farmer.

HOME.

MR. EDITOR :

Were I not urged on by that instinctive feeling that prompts me to do to others as I would have them do to me; I should not lift my pen at this time, but remain satisfied with what comes from abler pens. But as I act upon the principle of giving as well as receiving, I will contribute my "mite" and it may go for what it is worth.

I was much pleased in perusing the communication of J—. She has expressed my sentiments exactly, in regard to the pleasures and joys of home. Home—home—sweet, sweet home;—how much is expressed in those few words. If it is such as it should be, it is the only paradise on earth, as J— truly says; and the only well-spring of true felicity. I often think when meditating upon the pleasures of home, of Cowper's beautiful lines, in his address to domestic happiness.

"Domestic Happiness, thou only bliss
Of Paradise that hast survived the fall!
Though few now taste thee unimpaired and pure,
Or tasting long enjoy thee!
Thou art the nurse of virtue, in thine arms
She smiles, appearing, as in truth she is,
Heaven-born, and destined to the skies again."

Measures are not enjoyed exclusively at home.—There are pleasures to be enjoyed abroad, as well as at home. We take pleasure in visiting our friends, and associating with congenial spirits, and in forming new acquaintances, and in seeing the world, &c. But these pleasures soon satiate and cloy, and we sigh for the pure pleasures of our own happy home again, which never cloy. Our homes can be happy ones if we choose to have them such. 'Tis not gold or silver, that makes them such. 'Tis not fine houses, nor fine carriages, nor fine clothing that makes them such. Nor rich associates; but industry, temperance, patience, fidelity, gentleness, meekness, goodness, neatness; with strict attention to all and every duty.

RECEIPTS.

I send you the two subjoined receipts, thinking it may be some benefit to some one who may chance to live where cultivated fruit cannot yet be procured.—Having been one of the pioneers to this part of Michigan, when in its wild and uncultivated state, I have had ample opportunity of testing the value of our native fruits.

RECEIPT FIRST.—Take your plums, (wild) when fully ripe and mellow, place them in a pail, turn boiling water on them, and let it stand half an hour. Then turn it off and mash the plums, (it may be done with the hand when cool.) Then sift them to take out all the pits and skins, and then place it on earthen plates, and place it in the sun, or a moderately warm oven.—Let it dry until it becomes of the consistency of mush.

Then weigh it and add so much sugar as there is of the plums, mix it well together, place it in the oven again, until it becomes scalding hot. Then put it away in jars for use. It is excellent for sauce, tarts and pies.

S. L.

Thornapple, Barry Co., July 25, 1852.

The other recipe of S. L. is necessarily laid over for our next. Write again. Ed.

For the Michigan Farmer.

MR. EDITOR :

Having been a reader of the Michigan Farmer several years, and always interested in it, more particularly that portion which you have been pleased to denominate the "Ladies' Department," but never daring to venture within its precincts for fear of older and wiser heads than mine, with your permission I will now address a few lines to J * * *, of Oak Lodge.

THE JOYS AND SORROWS OF DOMESTIC LIFE.

DEAR J * * * :

After reading your communication in the Farmer, the following reflections were forced upon my mind:—If there be a paradise upon earth it truly can spring from no other source than that which you have described. To have a pleasant little home of one's own, where love abounds, and happiness reigns supreme, where at nightfall when the husband returns from the field, to the cheerful hearth, with one little daughter upon his knee, while the older children are gathered around the table with their books or work, (for farmers' daughters have to knit sometimes) and the mother clasps the tender infant, hushing it with a sweet lullaby—this surely presents a picture which might delight the coldest heart. But death enters that abode, that bright little cherub around whom clusters the heart's best affections, the pride of its father's heart, the idol of its mother's love, is snatched from their embrace so suddenly that the mark of the destroyer is scarcely seen upon its brow. The little form that but an hour ago was so full of life and animation, now lies cold in death. Oh that sleep! the eyelids droop so heavily upon its little cheek, and the lips that but a moment before lisped its mother's name, now so closely sealed. Cruel, cruel, it seems to take that one. Why not have taken one less dear? Let the mother answer—as she looks around upon the remaining ones, a mother's love prevails, she feels that "it is well." That little one could best be spared, it was too pure; too beautiful for earth, and its little spirit longed to break the fetters of mortality, and soar to the realms above, where the pure spirit holds communion with the Author of spirits.

If we would be happy, we must know whence cometh our happiness. Life is a chequered scene of troubles and trials, and nothing but a sense of our dependence and obligation to our Heavenly Father, can ensure unclouded happiness. Sorrow treadeth upon the heels of joy, and secret and hidden dangers may hang over us when the heart is lightest, and the mind least prepared.

Yours ever,

CORA.

Pleasant Hill, July, 1852.

MICHIGAN FARMER.

Warren Isham, Editor.

DETROIT, NOVEMBER, 1852.

MERCY ON US!

Little did we think, when we offered our travels, in book form, as a premium for getting subscribers to the next volume, commencing the first of January, that we should have claimants for them down upon us within a single week. O dear! What shall we do? why, we have not even prepared them for the press; and, with all else we have to do, cannot possibly get them ready before spring. Just consider, that we have two volumes to prepare, that a portion of the materials consists of rough notes, which have to be wrought into form, and that the rest has to be subjected to a thorough revision—that we have the Farmer to edit, and an increasing business to manage, besides spending the half of our time in traveling.

Our friends will pardon us for neglecting to notify them of this necessary delay. It has heretofore been customary with us to bestow the premiums in the spring, after all the clubs have come in, and we supposed it would be expected to be so this year.

It is certainly very cheering to us, however, to find our friends so much in earnest upon the subject. And indeed, now is the time for action, before the field shall be pre occupied.

A WORD TO OUR FRIENDS.

Yes, now is the time for action, *before the field is pre-occupied*, and it is cheering to us to learn, that there is a general movement among our friends, to extend the circulation of the Farmer. We are willing to have you regard the present number as a specimen—read it, and tell us, shall we have less than *Ten Thousand* upon our list for the next volume?

We have been at vast expense to qualify ourselves for the great task before us by foreign travel, and there has been a general expression of good will to us from all quarters for the letters we have sent home. And now will you not go further, and let your congratulations and expressions of good will, come to us in the long lists of new subscribers you will send us.

We invite attention to the revised edition of the list of premiums we offer.

As our offer of premiums in the last Farmer may not have been fully understood, we invite attention to the following

PREMIUMS.

Take notice, that for the largest list of subscribers for the next volume of the Michigan Farmer, at 75 cents each, we will give ten dollars in cash, the five last volumes of the same, half bound, and the Editor's Travels in the East, in two octavo volumes.

For the next largest number, at the same price, six dollars in cash, the five last volumes of the Farmer,

and the two volumes of the Editor's Travels in the East.

For thirty names at seventy-five cents each, the five last volumes of the Farmer and the two volumes of the Editor's Travels in the East.

For twenty names at the same price, two back volumes of the Farmer, and the two volumes of the Editor's Travels in the East.

For fifteen names at the same, one back volume of the Farmer, and the two volumes of the Editor's Travels in the East.

For ten subscribers, at 80 cents each, we will give the two volumes, and for five, one volume of the Editor's Travels in the East, or of the Michigan Farmer.

The pay to be invariably in advance, except in cases where the agent becomes responsible for its forthcoming soon.

SOME OMISSIONS.

In giving the names of those in our last, who have exerted themselves to increase our subscription list, we find we omitted a considerable number, and indeed it would be difficult to mention them all, as many of them sent their names through the postmaster. But no matter, we shall find them out between this and the first of January, and a host, we trust, besides. Every one who feels an interest in the object, is respectfully solicited to step forward and take his place in the ranks of the *life-guard* of the Farmer.

TO J. S. C.

We have received from J. S. C., of Macomb County, a communication which would occupy more than a page of the Farmer, the substance of which is, that his neighbors' cattle have destroyed his crops for three years in succession, notwithstanding his efforts to make a good fence.—The case is aggravated by the circumstance that his neighbors are rich and he is poor, and he implores us and all the lawyers that read the Farmer, to tell him what he shall do.

As our friend seems to have maintained the struggle to the best of his ability, and with becoming fortitude, and as his rich and powerful neighbors seem to be bent on his destruction, and there seems to be no hope left for him where he is, our humble advice to him is to sell out, and move away as soon as possible. But how is this? The cattle of the rich farmers which destroy the crops of J. S. C., must, of course, first destroy the crops of their owners, year after year, as he seems to be up with them in good fences. We have never seen a rich farmer of that sort, and would give something to get sight of one.

From each of our subscribers, who has had the paper a year without paying, there is due \$1 75 cents and the same amount for each subsequent year. Some are in arrears for the whole five years we have published the paper, others for four, three, and two years, and many for only one year. To all we would say, that if they will remit us the amount due, at one dollar a year, the advance price, with one additional dollar for the next year, and thus save us the trouble and expense of sending an agent, it shall be in full.

VISITS TO THE COUNTY FAIRS.

Since our last, we have been present at three County Fairs, viz: Washtenaw, Kalamazoo and Hillsdale. They were all well attended, and exhibited a good representation of the agricultural and other improvements rife in those counties.

As our correspondents have, in our present number given an account of the two former, Washtenaw and Kalamazoo, we shall only say of them, that we were highly gratified with their general aspect, and were made very happy by the congratulations of many kind friends.

At Hillsdale we were very happily disappointed. We had somehow gotten the impression, that not much was to be expected from Hillsdale, the County being newish, and this being only their second fair. But the farmers of that County (and they are neither few nor small) made a noble rally. They had some excellent stock on the ground. There was a five years old Devon bull belonging to Judge Miller, of Moscow, which exhibits some of the best points of that esteemed breed, and a two year old belonging to Mr. Huff, is not much his inferior. A three year old Durham bull belonging to Geo. Monroe, Esq., is a very superior animal. The great calf, belonging to Mr. Ferris, which took the first premium, we think, at the State Fair, was there. There was also a large, five years old Durham, belonging to S. B. White, a noble animal. The monarch of the day, however, for size and majesty, was a bull which had a large infusion of short horn blood, with a dash of what they called the Duroc, a new sort of blood to us, belonging to Mr. Wood of Wright, a noble beast, weighing over two thousand pounds, and for so large an animal, exceedingly well made. In horses J. D. Vanhoeverbergh distanced all competitors. In sheep there was a capital show, there being 124 entries for competition. There were some swine, Shanghai fowls, Chinese geese, &c.

The vegetables were quite remarkable for size.

The fruit department, as at all the other fairs we have attended, exhibited a rich display of some of the best varieties of the apple, quince, &c. We were surprised to see some varieties of Summer apples, as the Sweet Bow, Red Astracan, and some other July and August apples, in a state of perfect preservation. They were exhibited by Rev. E. Buck, and were preserved in lime. We tasted some wine belonging to the same, made from the unfarmed juice of the grape, which was excellent. Mr. B. expects to manufacture about two barrels the present season.

The ladies' department was well sustained, exhibiting a pleasing variety of the ornamental and the useful.

An able and instructive address was delivered on the second day by Gov. McClelland. The collection of people was large. The enclosure fairly swarmed with human beings on the second day. The many cordial greetings we received are among the pleasant reminiscences of our visit. In testimony of their good will, some kind friends interested themselves in the matter, and procured for us twenty-five new subscribers, with the money in advance, giving us to understand, that it was but the first fruits, and that the harvest was yet to come.

P. S. We have said above that correspondents had given an account of the Washtenaw and Kalamazoo County Fairs. We regret to say, however, at the last moment,

that the dependance for a communication from Washtenaw has failed us, and we can only add, that there was a nobler display of stock and of fruit than we have seen at any other County Fair. The ladies also displayed superior taste.

LETTER FROM GOV. THROOP.

We trust we shall be pardoned for giving the following extract, of a private letter from Gov. Throop. The truth is, we had had some misgivings about publishing the results of our observations in the old world, in book form, and these misgivings had only been overcome by the urgent solicitations of those whose judgment we respect. But, that we should have such a testimonial as the following, from so distinguished a source, was certainly quite out of our calculations. And this testimony is the more valuable from the fact, that Gov. T. has traveled extensively in Europe, and resided several years as our ambassador at the Court of Naples, and it may be added, that he is gifted with no ordinary powers of observation. It does us good, and it will doubtless be very grateful to the feelings of our readers, to know, that our contributions from abroad, have been approbated by one so competent to sit in judgment upon them:

SPRINGBROOK, Oct. 25, 1852.

MY DEAR SIR:

I want to see you and talk about what you saw during your late travel through the world. I have read every word of your letters with the greatest satisfaction. They will make one of the most interesting books of travel that has been published in recent times by a Wanderer in Europe, and among the tombs and ruins and wretchedness of still more ancient civilization and present degradation. There are a few things which you will, of course, correct on a revision.

Stale as the subject of foreign travels is, your letters have a freshness which is as charming as it was unexpected. It is because you have penetrated depths of society and humanity that other travelers have not searched into, and have given us new views of classes of men, their pursuits and condition. You have written of what you saw and what you thought *con amore*, and I am pleased with the Republican and truly American spirit with which you viewed and scanned every thing that came in your way.

Your sincere friend,

E. T. THROOP.

W. ISHAM, Esq.

UPWARD TENDENCY.—Among the evidences of the genial influences of the institutions of our country we may mention the fact, that the young man who was employed as a compositor in setting up the Farmer, when we left for Europe, is now the editor and proprietor of the Galesburgh News Letter, at Galesburgh, Illinois, an ably conducted and interesting paper.

For the Michigan Farmer.
ST. JOSEPH COUNTY FAIR.

MR. ISHAM:

Dear Sir—I have just returned from the St. Joseph County Fair, held yesterday, at Centerville. The morning was very threatening for rain, and near noon a very dark cloud overshadowed the horizon, and some rain fell, but of short duration. The after part of the day was very pleasant and a great concourse of people assembled. The show of cattle, horses, sheep and hogs were creditable, to a good country, and of that kind St. Joseph is not in the "back ground." The Society is yet in its infancy, this being only the second exhibition. A little more system and order in the arrangement, are necessary, and that will be remedied. They intend to purchase a beautiful lot of land containing six acres, expressly for the Fair ground, which will be properly enclosed and permanent arrangements made for annual exhibitions. That is the proper method. An admittance fee to enter the ground after the Fair becomes attractive, will always ensure a sufficiency of funds for the expenses and premiums.

Mr. C. S. Wheeler, of Flowerfield, and Mr. George Carman, had each a large stock of cattle, of the best kind, and they fell heirs to a goodly proportion of the premiums. I also exhibited four head of my cattle; as visitors, those which I had at the State Fair. Mr. Carman had three separate pens of hogs of a very superior quality, for grades, I believe there were no pure bloods of any kind upon the ground; but doubtless they will introduce the pure bloods of different kinds before they permit the present stock to degenerate.—Some very fine Leicester sheep were exhibited by Mr. Kirby, not far inferior to Col. Shearer's, and you know they are hard to beat. Some pure blood merin's were shown and were very good. The Fowl fever has not reached St. Joseph county yet, it wants the Doctor to give it a start.

The show of horses was good, some fine colts and some fine aged horses. One Morgan horse owned by some gentleman at Colon, was a very superior horse, decidedly the best I have seen of that blood; his size was good, his movement perfectly graceful, and form most elegant, with a beautiful bay color. I am perfectly willing to give the real Morgan horse all the credit he deserves, but when they are fictitiously called Morgan or *Black Hawk*, merely because the name has become popular, and no evidence of pedigree more than the assertion of a traveler while swapping horses, and afterwards, when grown up passed off for and represented as colts of the the "Simon Pure," I do most sincerely object. It is a slander upon the old stock, now so celebrated, to be accused of having gotten such horses as are some times called Morgan and *Black Hawk* blood. Strict pedigrees well attested, should be required by breeders before credence should be given to those names.

I listened with great pleasure to an address delivered by Gen. Crary, of Marshal, which indeed was of the highest order for such an occasion. After which, I adjourned, took my cattle, and started homeward.

Yours, &c.,

A. Y. MOORE.

Schoolcraft, Oct. 15, 1852.

For the Michigan Farmer.
CASS COUNTY FAIR.

MR. EDITOR:

Our Fair came off on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 5th and 6th of Oct. inst. The weather was fine, and the show of stock, especially of cattle and horses much larger than that of last year. There was a good assortment of buggy horses and three year old colts, and three beautiful yearlings; also, of cows, and blood calves; and the excitement among competitors evinced a growing interest, as well as an increased effort on the part of the farmers of the county. There were also some pens of ewes and lambs, and quite a large number of good blooded French and Spanish merino bucks.

The exhibition of fruits, flowers, and vegetables was not so large as last year, nor was that of the products of the dairy. Of domestic manufactures the specimens exhibited were of the most gratifying character, and highly creditable to the skill and industry of those who produce them. The interest manifested on the second day of the fair, was much greater than on that of the first, and the entrances of stock, fruit, and domestic manufactures, by the indulgence of the committee, was continued until a late hour. Two hundred and seven entrances were made; several sales of stock took place on the ground at good prices, and several contracts were made for future sales. On the whole, we have good reason to hope, the time will soon come when our fairs will be resorted to, as much for the purpose of buying and selling, as for the exhibition of stock, implements, &c., and that farmers and mechanics will, ere long look upon the day of the fair as the great day of exhibition and sale of their products as well as of mutual acquaintance, kind congratulations, and good wishes.

The annual address was delivered by the writer at 3 o'clock P. M. of the second day after which the annual meeting of the society took place. The following persons were elected as the officers of the society for the ensuing year, viz: Uzziel Putnam, of Pokagon, President. Vice Presidents—F. Palrich; A. B. Capley; John S. Gage; Daniel Blish; F. Brownell; Hiram Jewell, Joseph Jones; Ira Warren; Milo Powell, Jesse Hutchinson; Pleasant Norton; Ezra Hatch; J. S. Reese; Peter Truitt.

For Sec'y—Daniel Blackman, Esqr., Casopolis.

For Treasurer—D. M. Howel, Esqr., do

Enclosed I send you a list of premiums awarded.

I am, very respectfully, &c.,

JUSIUS GAGE.

LENAWEE CO. FAIR.

MR. ISHAM:

Our fair came off this year with great success, and much superiority over former years. There were many more contributors, and a much greater display than in former years. The display of cattle, horses, and sheep, was excellent, also of fruits and vegetables. Much credit is due to the ladies for their display of taste. And of human beings, there was a great multitude which no man could number.

Yours, &c.,

C.

For the Michigan Farmer.
KALAMAZOO CO. FAIR.

KALAMAZOO, Oct. 14, 1852.

MR. EDITOR:

I made you a partial promise, that I would advise you with regard to our agricultural effort on the recent occasion of our County Fair. Though some six or eight days have transpired since it took place, yet this is the first opportunity which has offered for redeeming the pledge.—And even now, other subjects, not of greater importance, but still of interest, divide my attention, and will oblige me to give but a hasty and imperfect sketch of our transactions.

The 6th and 7th days of the present month, was the time set apart for the annual gathering of the yeomanry of Kalamazoo.

Gathering, is altogether too tame a word; it was, in fact, a mass of *muscle and mind*. Not only was the county there, but it would seem as though the adjoining counties had emptied themselves. I never was ashamed of my avocation, but I assure you it was then that I felt proud that I was an American Farmer. Agriculture was the engrossing theme of conversation, and though we were in the midst of an exciting political campaign, yet silence on that subject seemed to prevail by common consent.—*Bread*—its importance and its best mode of culture, swallowed up all other topics.

The display of Horses, Durham, Devon, Grade and Native Cattle, of Sheep, of Swine, and of Poultry, exceeded our most sanguine expectations. Farming implements, Vegetables, Fruit, Flowers, and in fine, everything bearing the most remote connection with husbandry, bore irresistible evidence, of the increasing interest which attaches to the farmer's avocation.

There was manifested on all sides, a laudable degree of competition for the premiums, and indeed, the various committees availed themselves of an allowable latitude, in the awarding of discretionary premiums.

Awards to the amount of perhaps \$300, were made in accordance with the instructions of the Executive Committee. The amount of funds realized by the sale of tickets, exceeded, I think, \$350, and this, together with \$100 coming from the county, will liquidate all our liabilities, and leave an amount in the treasury upon which to base our future operations, upon a more enlarged and liberal scale.

Among other means calculated to awaken interest and to enlist the efforts of the ladies of our county, the Executive Committee offered premiums upon the best specimens of female equestrianism, and though the project, to us, at least, was a novel one, yet entries were made to a limited extent, and the experiment fully succeeded. Upon the ground were many distinguished strangers, who expressed themselves pleased with our agricultural progress, and pronounced Kalamazoo in the advance of any of the County Societies.

The address of Hon. Edwin Lawrence was characterized by truth, beauty, and good wholesome logic; though there were some who thought it not sufficiently adapted to practical uses, but upon the whole it gave satisfaction. Thus ended the greatest agricultural holiday that ever has dawned upon our County, and it will be remembered with pleas-

ure until next Autumn, when we will try and outdo ourselves.

The address was followed by the election of the following officers:

Frederick W. Curtenius, President.
Amos D. Allen, Recording Secretary.
Luther H. Trask, Corresponding Secretary.
John Sleeper, Treasurer.

Andrew Y. Moore,
John Milham,
Stephen Eldred,
James Henry, Jun.,
Aaron Eames,

Executive Committee.

Yours, C.

BARRY CO. FAIR.

A letter from a subscriber speaks of the first fair of the Barry County Agricultural Society as quite creditable to the farmers of that county. Address by Hon. C. E. Stuart, of Kalamazoo.

BERRIEN CO. FAIR.

Says a correspondent:

The third annual fair and cattle show of Berrien County Agricultural Society, was held at Niles the 16th and 17th ultimo. The show of horses, stock, and implements were quite creditable, and the spirit manifested is encouraging for the future prosperity of the society. The Annual Address was delivered by Wm. Smyth Farmer, Esq. President of the Society.

[The name accompanying the above slipped from us—Ed.]

MACOMB CO. FAIR.

MR. ISHAM:

I have barely time to say, that our County Fair, held at Romeo, was all that we could have hoped, exceeding any previous one. There was a fine exhibition of stock, embracing pure bloods, grades and natives. The other departments also exhibited gratifying evidence of our onward progress in the march of agricultural improvements.

Yours, &c., W.

CALHOUN CO. FAIR.

We learn from a reliable source, that the Calhoun Co Fair was a highly creditable one, and every way satisfactory to the people of that fine agricultural county. The address of Wm. R. Schuyler, Esq., is spoken of as having been a highly instructive one.

CROPS IN THE NORTH PART OF OAKLAND COUNTY.

C. K. Carpenter, Esq., of New Canandaigua, writes as follows:

"The crops in this section are very light, in consequence of the unusually dry summer. Corn will not average one-half the usual crop. Buck wheat has fared worse yet, and potatoes will be a very light crop, though they are free from rot this year. Hay is very scarce, and high in price; very few farmers have any to sell. The coarse grain will all be wanted for home consumption, I think, in this county."

OIL CAKE.—Experiments prove that weight for weight the cake which is left after the oil is pressed out of the linseed, is more fattening than the seed itself.

For the Michigan Farmer.

CANADA THISTLES.

MR. EDITOR :

About seven years ago, I discovered a patch of thistles in the woods, a short distance from the house, and I commenced war upon the intruders immediately, by sowing salt broad-cast over them, and then leaving them to the mercies of the sheep. The next year I found another patch in clearing up a girdling which I sowed the same way. I sowed the salt on them once every week through the months of May, June, July and August, at which time the top began to turn yellow, and on examining them, I found the roots to be decaying, and soon they disappeared, and have not since made their appearance.

One of my neighbors found a patch about the same time, tried the same operation, but being too saving of salt and time, he gave the thistles a chance to regain their vigor before the next salting.

The consequence is, he has the thistles for a pest, (pest,) yet we have scarce a farm in this section of the country but what has more or less of the intruders on it, and the unfortunate one (for such I call the owner of a farm that has got them on,) doing little or nothing to kill them. At our town meeting, last spring, there was a by-law passed, making it a fine of \$1 on any one for letting them go to seed, those that had thistles voting against it as a matter of course.

ISRAEL SALLE.

N. B.—I have found a sure death to the horse sorrell which I will give to the farmers through you at some other time.

I. SALLE.

Please send us the "death" you have found.—ED.

For the Michigan Farmer.

POTATO BLIGHT—CAUSE AND REMEDY.

MR. EDITOR :—

Permit me through the columns of your valuable paper, to say a few words respecting the potatoe blight—a subject in which all are more or less interested.

Fears have been entertained that the potatoe, upon which so many thousands across the water mainly subsist, and which fill such a prominent place as an article of food in our own country, will at no very distant day become entirely useless.

For several years past the subject has engaged the attention of men well skilled in agricultural science. Various remedies have been spoken of, and among them the application of lime, plaster, manure &c., but all these remedies, however faithfully applied, have failed to obviate the disease. It still exists to some extent at least, although the present favorable prospect of a tolerable crop has a little revived our hopes.

Having been some what successful in raising potatoes free from blight I will give your numerous readers the benefit of my experience.

My practice, for several years past, has been to cut my seed potatoes in small pieces, leaving but one eye to a piece, and planting but four pieces, in a hill.

The result has been, that for five years past I have not lost one bushel in fifty by the rot, while those who have followed the old practice of throwing whole potatoes into

the hill, have generally lost one third and some times their whole crop.

Whoever will take the trouble to examine the potatoe a few weeks after planting, will observe that the exterior has become hardened, or in other words, almost petrified, which serves to prevent the main root from penetrating the soil. The interior becomes very succulent. The offensive effluvia, which prevades the entire decomposition, makes its ascent through the stock to the leaf, and after doing its deadly work there, through the medium of the root to the new tubers.

Now if we ascertained the cause, we need not err respecting the remedy.

By cutting small pieces from potatoes perfectly sound and free from blight, and planting them, and continuing to do so for a few successive years, the disease might be entirely banished from our land.

Yours &c.

E. M. COLE.

Fairfield, Oct. 13th, 1852.

For the Michigan Farmer.

FOOT ROT IN SHEEP.

BY S. W. JEWETT, OF VERMONT.

MR. ISHAM :

There is but little said about sheep in any form, in your paper,* but trusting you have some subscribers interested in Wool Growing, I venture to give them a certain cure for the Foot Rot, which is a sore that commences at the heel, or between the claws of the hoof at the spot where the horn of the hoof unites with the flesh. At this stage, the animal is slightly lame, but in four days after, if neglected, it works under the hoof, is more difficult to cure, unless you employ a skilful hand in whitling.

When the sheep are to be examined, it is a saving of time and labor, to make a trough by fastening two boards up edgewise a little flaring at the top, about 5 inches apart at the bottom, and six feet long—somewhat resembling a butcher's trough, in which the sheep are placed upon their backs, where they require no other fastening to keep them quiet, while the examination is going on.

The horn of every diseased hoof must be paired off, so far as the infection has got under and all the foot swabbed, whether sound or unsound. If the application be in winter the medicine should be warm—which is simply blue vitriol dissolved in water, or pounded very fine and mixed with some soft kind of grease. When thoroughly done the rot will be removed and the animal cured within a week. But this amounts to nothing, if you put the sheep back into the same infected pasture to take the disease again, within another week. They must be placed into previously uninfected ground. Keep the lame ones on the old ground till cured. But every sheep must take an application of the vitriol all over the hoof, outside and in, before it is put into uninfected grounds.

If you have a large flock, and cannot doctor them, as above, in warm weather, make a vitriol trough seven feet long, foot wide, keep vitriol water two or three inches deep in the bottom, put some grass or hay over, to keep them from spattering, and boards up at the sides—and set this level with the ground, at the entrance of the sheep fold; and allow the flock to pass out through this trough every two or three days. This will keep down the disease, and may entirely cure it.

But when cold weather sets in you must go at it in earnest, for then it is easily cured, for freezing kills all the infected matter on the ground.

Sheep take this disease one from another that is infected and in no other way. It is transferred by inoculation only, by coming in contact with infection, which may lay months upon the ground, where infected flocks have passed, and deposited it from the feet.

Those who don't thoroughly understand whitling the hoof, better set every foot into the decoction, which, if warm, is the better, and let it remain a minute, this will penetrate those parts not uncovered, by the knife.

* There was a great deal said upon the subject previous to our leaving for Europe. How it has been since we have not particularly noticed.—Ed.

We found the following communication in our drawer upon our return. It deserved earlier attention. Though dated some time back, it will do now. The writer will be recognized as hailing from Kalamazoo.

For the Michigan Farmer.

MR. EDITOR:—

The desire manifested in many portions of our State for improvement in fowls, induces me to call attention through the medium of your paper to Doctor M. Freeman's extensive poultry yard near this village. The Doctor has been for some time past well known to the readers of the "Farmer" not only as a skillful breeder, but also as a highly interesting correspondent.

His Dorkings, Malays, Game and other fowls have been purchased with avidity, and are pretty liberally distributed among our citizens. In addition these, he is this season breeding the Cochins, China's and Shanghaes, from some of the finest specimens of that species I have ever seen. He is a gentleman of known integrity, and breeds with such skill and accuracy that purchasers will not only be certain of getting superior specimens, but will likewise, which is of at least equal importance, get the very thing they bargain for. Pure bloods of these varieties or crosses between them judiciously and extensively made, he expects to be able to furnish this fall, in numbers equal to the demand.

Finding that our large rats are a most destructive enemy of chickens, the Doctor has procured some very fine Terrier Dogs, both of the English and Scotch varieties, so that he will be able to furnish his customers with the best of chickens, and the best means of protecting them.

Yours, &c.,

CHARLES E. STUART.

For the Michigan Farmer.

STACKING WHEAT.

MR. EDITOR:—

There is one thing that would be advantageous to threshers. Most farmers stack on the ground, and the Stack draws a dampness up three or four feet, which detains a machine longer than it need to, and causes a complaining; and another thing they might do, they should keep their Stacks full in the middle above the bilge. If your paper could be circulated among such and some writer would take hold of it, the farmer might save his three dollars and the thresher one on every small job, especially with Monroes machines.

Michigan.

JAS. K. BENNETT.

For the Mich. Farmer.

REMEDY FOR THE BEE MOTH.

MR. EDITOR:

I noticed in the Sept. No. of your paper some directions for destroying the moth or miller in and about bee hives. Having kept bees for a number of years, I think I can furnish you with some suggestions of importance on that subject. By adopting the following plan, my bees receive but little injury from the moth:

Place under each corner of the hive, a block of hard wood, one inch and a quarter high, one inch and a half across the top, and one half inch across the bottom, cut with smooth and true taper from top to bottom—then take two or three sticks of elder, ten or twelve inches long, split them in the center, take out the pith, then put the pieces under the hive flat-side downwards. The worms when they fall from the hive, either from their inability to hold to the comb, or by being thrown down by the bees, cannot climb the smooth tapering blocks, back into the hive—but will crawl for shelter under the sticks of elder placed at the bottom of the hive. And by removing them and destroying the worms, two or three times in a week, a swarm of bees will sustain little if any injury from the moth. The blocks should be taken from under the hive late in the fall, and replaced again early in the spring.

Yours truly,

J. D. YERKES.

NORTHVILLE, Sept. 27th, 1852.

Please give us more bits of your experience.—[Ed.]

The following is but a specimen of numerous letters of a similar import, which we have received. It was accompanied with the name of a new subscriber and the pay:

NEW CANANDAIGUA, Oct. 9th, 1852.

MR. ISHAM:

Right glad was I to see in the last number of the Farmer some of the old fashioned Editorial, breathing a spirit of determination to persevere, in spite of all difficulties, in advancing the science of agriculture, and the general cause of agricultural improvement. I hope the subscribers to the Farmer will not be backward in seconding your efforts—that those in arrears will remember the important duty to pay up, and that every one of your subscribers will add, to his own name one or more of his neighbors, accompanied, of course, with the material aid.

I am happy to see that you intend publishing your travels in the old world, in book form. I shall be after one as a premium and if I do not entitle myself to a volume as such, the subscription price shall be forth coming soon after the publication.

C. K. C.

For the Michigan Farmer.

THE DOINGS OF ONE AFTERNOON.

MR. EDITOR:

After taking dinner, we travelled one mile to the field, and commenced the operation of cutting, threshing and cleaning with the mammoth harvester of A. Y. Moore, and by half past six o'clock, we had two hundred and sixty bushels of wheat snugly and neatly put in the granary. We also sent five bushels of the same to the mill, and had flour made of it, and some of said flour nicely baked (by a good looking lady) and we partook of the same for supper. Who can beat that?

Yours &c.,

P. HOWER.

For the Michigan Farmer.
THOROUGH FARMING TESTED.

DELTA, Eaton Co., 1852.

MR. EDITOR:

I have never seen any thing upon the subject of seed-
ing to clover, which agreed exactly with my own
practice. For several years I have sown clover seed
in the fall with my wheat, and harrowed it in, and
have never lost a seeding. In the fall of 1847, I seeded
six acres to clover and timothy, and have mowed it ev-
er since (except 1848 when I harvested my wheat) and
had one and a half tons of hay to the acre, until this
year. In the summer of 1849 I summer-fallowed a stony,
stumpy clover field, of six acres, and sowed it to
wheat. My field was in fine order, and my neighbors
congratulated me on my prospect of a rich harvest.—
But the result was a luxurious growth of straw, and
but little wheat. I was not satisfied with my crop
and resolved to try again. Accordingly I turned in
hogs, sheep, geese, &c., and picked off all the wheat,
and plowed in a very long stubble, turning it down at
least ten inches deep. I then took my harrow, and
smoothed down the furrows, gathered the stones into
large heaps, sowed my wheat, and harrowed in one
way; then sowed on six bushels of clover seed in the
chaff, to the acre, and bushed it in, and then with a
roller, made it as smooth as a brick yard.

At the harvest, in 1851 cut about three-fourths as much
straw, and at least one-third more wheat, than in 1850,
and the clover was as high as the stubble, and so thick
that one could hardly see the ground in any place.—
The wheat averaged about 28 bushels.

This year we have suffered extremely from drought
but from this field I have cut one and a half tons of ex-
cellent hay per acre, while from my other fields and
throughout the neighborhood, half a ton is full the av-
erage crop. This result confirms me (and I trust many
of my neighbors) in the belief that an acre of land
well tilled, is better than two acres half tilled. My
farm is generally a sandy or loamy soil, with a clay
subsoil.

Will you inform your readers whether a subsoil plow
would be preferable to our common plow? Will wood
ashes prove as beneficial spread upon meadow land in
the fall as in the spring?*

I am trying to be a farmer. I have been a plowjog-
ger about twenty years, plodding on, on, on, with little
or no improvement. But now I want to emerge from
the old routine of doing every thing just as father did,
simply because he did it. To this end I read the Farm-
er with great interest and profit. I am confident that
the Farmer is worth to me more than its cost every
month. My boys too read and practice. And my
wish is, that every farmer in Michigan would sub-
scribe, read, and practice, and I do believe we should
soon have better farmers.

Yours truly, E. S. INGERSOL.

*It will be found beneficial to let the one follow the other. The
subsoil plow is designed to follow the common plow, loosening the
subsoil without turning it up. It does not need to be used oftener
than once in four years.

†We should say the spring would be preferable, though if more
convenient, we should make the application in the fall.—Ed.

Though this is friend I's first, we trust it will not be his last ef-
fort.—Ed.

MERINO SHEEP.

Middlebury Vermont, Oct. 6, 1852.

WARREN ISHAM:—

SIR: From my observations in France and England,
last year and this, I can well unite with you in your re-
marks upon the Agriculture and manners and customs
of the two countries.

My particular business there was to select and import
from France some of the best Merino blood that I could
find in that country. I send you the number and amount
of Shipments at Havre for New York.

May 1851.	Per Steamer Franklin,	100
" "	Per Ship Havre,	10
July "	Per Ship Samuel M. Fox,	20
" "	Per Ship Carioca,	25
" "	Per Ship George Hurlburt,	50
Aug. "	Per Ship Seine,	47
" "	Per Ship Galena,	56
		308
April "	Per Ship Trenton,	13
" "	Per Steamer Franklin	151
May "	Per Steamer Humbolt,	109
		273

In all 583. Of this number, 572 were ewes, the bal-
ance rams, purchased of Mons. Gilbert & Cugnot, except
three from the Rombouillet flock. The lowest price
these sheep can be obtained at in France is \$40, but for a
large number of my purchases I paid there \$100, each
sheep, and offered Victor Gilbert \$12,000, this last spring,
for 100 ewes more, which he would not spare me, but
said many of the ewes that I now had of him were equal
to those he had left.

The cost of transporting, this flock, including feed and
fixings to my farm in Vermont is over \$15,000.

Insurance at Sea, (not by natural death or starvation)
is \$10 on \$100. To purchase and Ship a small lot of
Sheep the expenses would be much more per head.

There are three private flocks of sheep in France, su-
perior to the Rombouillet Flock.

Col. Brewer and G. A. Gale Esq., of Ypsilanti, have 30
noble Ewes and a Ram, which I purchased of these pri-
vate flocks, and imported this year. They will raise
more than 30 lambs from them this fall with ordinary
luck.

S. W. JEWETT.

Mr. J's statement above in regard to the first cost, and
expenses of transportation, of the French Sheep, we be-
lieve, from the information we obtained upon the subject
when abroad, to be substantially correct. [Ed.]

DOWAGIAC, Cass County, Michigan.

MR. ISHAM:—

I have resolved to come forward in answer to your call,
and do all I can in enlarging the circulation of the Far-
mer in the county of Cass.

I intend to commence operations immediately, and I
wish you to send me half a dozen copies of the October
No. to serve as specimen numbers for the time being.

I am satisfied, that, a general circulation of the Farmer
among the people would do more than any one thing

else, toward advancing the interests of Agricultural Societies in the State, and I am resolved to do all in the power of so humble an individual as myself toward elevating the agricultural and mechanical industry of the country to the high position which they of right ought to occupy in public estimation.

I am very respectfully, &c.,

JUSTUS GAGE.

For the Michigan Farmer.
PLYMOUTH, Oct. 11, 1852.

FRIEND ISHAM:

Welcome home to Michigan, the land of sure promise. Your days have been singularly lengthened out in passing through the many vicissitudes encompassing your weary path, over many portions of the Old World, for which you cannot be too thankful to Him, who rules the destinies of men. The laborious task you have performed with credit to yourself, and very agreeably to your numerous readers. Your letters furnish a graphic description of the lives, habits, and modes of living of a great portion of the human race, while they furnish an intellectual feast, and at the same time awaken feelings of sorrow for the oppressed of every land. The facts and practical illustrations drawn from your letters will find applicability, not only to the case of the agriculturist and horticulturist, but to that of all professions and callings in life, even of the preacher and politician. And it must ever be a source of much enjoyment to you to know that you have contributed your mite to the enlightenment of mankind, and served to drive away the dark shadows which sometimes shroud the pathway of human life.

Most respectfully and truly yours,

J. SHEARER.

A QUESTION PUT.

CHELSEA, October 18th, 1852.

FRIEND ISHAM,—

I enclose a dollar for my current year. It is heart cheering to hear your voice again in the Farmer. I congratulate you on your safe arrival, and the more remembering how the lamented A. J. Downing, was called from Earth while travelling.

I would ask some one, if deep ploughing among corn the second time of hoeing, when it cuts off the roots, is not injurious to the crops.

F. A. BOLLES.

FALL PLOWING.

Says a correspondent of the Green Mountain Culturist:

The season is now at hand when farmers begin to think of performing this operation, and probably most farmers in this State are in the habit of doing more or less of it, so that my experience in the matter may be acceptable to most of the readers of the *Culturist*.

I have many times found fall plowing beneficial, and many times injurious. On tenacious clay soils, which are intended for spring crops, I think it is always better to plow in the fall. It may answer in certain cases on sward land, or the advantage that may

be sometimes gained in freezing worms by turning them up just as the ground is being frozen, may counterbalance what is lost in other respects.

The great art in managing clay soils is to keep them light and friable, and this is effected by the action of the frost through the winter, but I think that nothing is added to their strength in this way. The furrows should be laid so as to lap one half, or they should be laid in back-furrows so that the water will drain off, as the frost will not dissolve what is immersed in water or bound up in ice.

If you wish to plow sward land in order to have it rotted by spring, it should be done in August, as it will not rot much by seed time if done late in Autumn—not as much as it would if it remained till the grass has a fair start in the spring.

A FARMER.

SAVING SEED CORN, IMPORTANT.

We find in the Germantown Telegraph the following important item, in respect to the effect of proper care in selecting and saving seed corn, taken from a published statement of a distinguished farmer near Brattleboro' Vermont.

"By proper attention to this matter, a variety may be perfectly adapted in its habits to a given climate and soil, and changed much for the better as to productiveness. The difference in product, between careful selection in the field, and taking seed at random from the crib, will, in a very few years, be much in favor of the former mode—the soil and cultivation being in both cases alike.

"As soon as the earliest ears are thoroughly glazed, I go over the field myself, selecting from those stalks that are 'stocky' and vigorous, and that produce two good ears. The selected ears are taken immediately home braided, and hung up in a dry, airy place. When I commenced with my favorite variety, it was difficult to find twin ears; but now they are abundant. My crops also ripen ten days earlier than at first. I will not mention the length of the ears that might be found in my fields, but will say to you, Mr. Editor, come and see for yourself."

PUTTING DOWN BUTTER.

A writer in the Philadelphia Post, says some very good things about putting down butter. We make the following extract. Ed.

"A word as to salt. That used for butter should be made expressly for the purpose. Salt, as ordinarily offered for sale contains other salts, than muriate of soda, the one wanted—some of them fatal to butter that is intended for keeping. If this fact was more generally known, it would create such a demand for pure salt, that it would be an object for the manufacturers to prepare it in such large quantities as would add but little, if at all, to the expense.

The wood of which the firkin is made, is also important—and singularly enough, the usual material, oak, is the very worst, being most highly charged with iron and acetic acid. Beech, maple, and some others, would be much better, and cost no more."

HORTICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

OUR HORTICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

As we have placed one page of our Horticultural, or rather Floracultural matter in another place, it abstracts a little from the show under our appropriate Horticultural head. Important matter, however will be found here. The revelations, inquiries, and suggestions of friend Noble, are deserving the attention of all our horticulturists, and we trust, that from some of them light will break forth. We shall, from time to time, as we have in the present number, make contributions to this department from the results of our observations in foreign countries, and in the mean time, we ask all our horticultural friends to step forward to aid us in sustaining its interest. We should like to call some of them by name, but it might seem invidious. There are those within our borders, whose contributions would do honor to the cause, and we ask them to make a common stock of their experience for their mutual benefit. Would not this be fair? Would it not be profitable? In such a case, each one, by throwing in his own experience, could have the benefit of that of all other contributors in return. What could be more fair or profitable than that.

For the Michigan Farmer.

THE APPLE WORM.

The present year has been one in which the Apple Worm has made its ravages beyond any former period.—Whether the cause is the unprecedented drought which has pervaded the entire State in a greater or less degree, or whether we are to look for other causes, remains to be tested. As now is the time for gathering apples, it would be well for fruit growers to make all the observation possible, and endeavor to ascertain what peculiar location, if any, has been the scene of the greatest havoc, and what varieties of apples has been the most affected. With me, the Fall Pippin Rambo, Golden Russet, Pumpkin Sweeting, Holland Pippins and Nonsuch, have been the most injured, while the Swaar, Roxbury Russet, English Russet, Greenings, Vandereen and Newtown Pippins, Pearmain, Westfield Seek no Further, and some others, have been but little affected. For several years past, I have made no observation to ascertain any difference in varieties injured. I have two or three large trees standing near the place where I have made my hot-beds for years, and the apples on those trees are almost an entire failure.—Now is it the manure in the hot-beds that has caused the worm to increase more rapidly, or are we to look for other causes? If there could be a united effort by fruit-growers to try experiments, it does appear that good may result from it.

But I am very sanguine in the opinion, that the most effectual way to destroy the pest, is to enclose the orchard and fruit yard in all possible cases, and permit the hogs to eat the fallen apples, and this is the only way a hog can be of any service while living.

I was not able to discover the least appearance of a cocoon last spring or fall, or anything that appears to be a deposit of larvæ, and am induced to believe that

the cocoons, if any, must be on other trees than the apple. Where are they? Yours,

S. B. NOBLE.

Ann Arbor, Oct. 12, 1852.

For the Michigan Farmer.

WHAT SHALL BE DONE?

It is generally conceded that Michigan grows as good fruit as any other State. Most of the best varieties of Apple, Pear, Plum, Peach, Quince, Nectarine, and Apricots succeed well here, and from many localities large quantities are exported.

But while these facts are allowed, there is a serious drawback. For a few years the apple worm has been increasing to an alarming extent, so that in some orchards one half, and more, of the apples have been injured or totally destroyed, and yet no remedy is known.

Plums have ceased to be a favorite; the curculio has done its work, so much so that it is rare to find a good Plum, and in many fruit yards none come to perfection, and no remedy has been discovered.

Pears are being affected by the blight, and many of them are dying. The Quinces are going in the same way, the Apricot is generally cut off by the late frosts, and the nectarines are the favorites of the curculio and we seldom have any. Now what shall be done? What is done, should be done quickly. Every one should feel interested in the cultivation of fruit, and as far as circumstances allow, experiment until some remedy is discovered to destroy all offenders. Until some thing more effectual is discovered, we may despair of having as much good fruit as we have had. Unless it be by late frosts for ten years in succession, so severe and late as to destroy the fruit, leaving nothing by which the insects can propagate successfully. Such a remedy may be thought to be worse than the disease, and perhaps it is, but it may not occur for some years, and should not be depended upon.

Let every man constitute himself a committee, and proceed forthwith to duty, in every way, and in all ways, and endeavor to discover the evils, if possible, and remedy them.

S. B. NOBLE.

Ann Arbor, Oct. 12, 1852.

For the Michigan Farmer.

QUINCE TREES.

The quince trees in this vicinity are being materially injured by the borer, and if they continue their depredations for a year or two longer, the trees will be about used up.

The body of the trees are not only punctured, but the branches are attacked by an insect that usually enters at that point where the growth of the current year began, and works its way to the center, and then proceeds upward through the pith. The consequence is that the branches die immediately. Now a proper remedy appears to be to cut off the branches as fast as any appearance of decay is visible, and burn them. This, however, cannot be effectual if the insect is propagated in other places than the quince trees. If any one has discovered a remedy I hope we shall hear from him.

S. B. NOBLE.

Ann Arbor, Oct. 12, 1852.

WATERING YOUR PLANTS WITH THE SYPHON.

It is rather late in the season to give directions for supplying your cucumbers and melon vines with a constant flow of water, but perhaps some of you will remember it during another spring and summer. We, not long ago, mentioned this plan in the Farmer, which consisted in placing a pail or vessel of water, near the plant to be watered, and conveying the water over the edge by means of a wet rope.

The September number of the Pennsylvania Farm Journal gives a communication from a correspondent in which is a detail of the mode used as long ago as 1817, from which we extract the following:

Two water melon vines near each other were selected in soil of the same appearance, one of them being considerably more flourishing than the other. The experiment was made upon the declining vine, by gently twisting a cotton syphon or rope made of candle-wick proportioned to the stem of the plant. A pot of water was elevated above the surface of the ground, covered from the vehement heat of the sun with a piece of board. The cotton syphon was then wetted in order to communicate motion to the fluid, upon the fountain principle. A small stone was tied to one end as a weight to sink it when immersed in the water, and being dropped into the pot, the other end was passed down into the earth by scratching the mold gently away from the root, and giving the syphon a spiral direction around it, covered slightly with the replaced mold.

In a short time the earth became moderately moistened with a few inches around the root of the plant, in which condition it continued through the heat of the day without parching or scalding. The syphon supplied the demand of the plant, and no more; a cool succession took place through the effects of evaporation, and in a few days the vine became flourishing and outgrew its neighbor.

The writer says he has repeatedly tried this experiment with good effect, and thinks it capable of extension in a garden or nursery by placing troughs the whole length of the beds.

We should think this would be an excellent method of supplying plants or even trees with liquid manures. The manure, whether animal or mineral, might be dissolved in the water, and thus applied to the roots and both manured and watered at one operation.—*Maine Farmer.*

THE TOMATO.

To many persons there is something unpleasant, not to say disgusting, in the flavor of this excellent fruit. It has, however, long been used for ordinary purposes in various countries of Europe, and has, of late years, been extensively cultivated, and become a general favorite in this country. Dr. Bennett, a Professor of some celebrity, considers it an invaluable article of diet, and ascribes to it very important medical properties.

1. That the Tomato is one of the most powerful deobstruents of the *Materia Medica*, and that in all those affections of the liver and other organs where calomel is in-

dicated, it is probably the most effective and least harmful remedial agent known in the profession.

2. That a chemical extract will be obtained from it, which will altogether supercede the use of calomel in the cure of diseases.

3. That he has successfully treated serious diarrhoea with this article alone.

4. That when used as an article of diet, it is almost a sovereign remedy for dyspepsia or indigestion.

5. That persons moving from the east or north to the south or west, should by all means make use of it as an aliment, as it would, in that event, save them the danger attended upon those violent bilious attacks to which almost all unacclimated persons are liable.

6. That the citizens in ordinary should make use of it, either raw, cooked, or in the form of a catsup, with their daily food, as it is the most healthy article in the *Materia Alimentaria*.

Professor Rafinesque of France says:—"It is everywhere deemed a very healing vegetable, and invaluable article of food."

Dungleson says:—"It may be looked upon as one of the most wholesome and valuable esculents that belong to the vegetable kingdom."

Professor Dickens asserts, that "it may be considered more wholesome than any other acid sauce."

A writer in the Farmer's Register says:—"It has been tried by several persons, with decided success. They were afflicted with a chronic cough, the primary cause of which, in one case, was supposed to be diseased liver—in another, diseased lungs. It mitigates, and sometime effectually checks a fit of coughing."

The method most commonly adopted in preparing this fruit for daily use, is to cut them in slices, and serve with salt, pepper, and vinegar, as you do cucumbers.

To stew them; remove them ripe from the vines, slice up, and put them in a pot over the stove or fire, without water. Stew them slowly, and, when done, put in a small piece of butter, and eat them as you do apple sauce.—Some add a little flour bread, finely crumbed, or a couple of crackers pulverized.

The Tomato is a fruit very easily raised. If the seed be sown in May, in good rich soil, of a warm nature, with a sufficiency of old well rotted manure, there will rarely be any danger of failure. When the vines begin to lean, they should be provided with a trellis, or tied to stakes fixed in the soil, to keep the fruit from being injured in coming in contact with the dirt.—*Maine Farmer.*

CHARLES DICKENS ON GARDENING.

Mr. DICKENS discoursed very eloquently upon flowers and all that pertains thereto, at the ninth anniversary of Gardener's Royal Benevolent Institution, held on Monday, at the London Tavern. Gardening, he said, was invariably connected with peace and happiness:

"Gardens are associated in our minds with all periods of time. We know that painters and sculptors, and statesmen, and men of war, and men who have agreed in nothing else, have agreed, in all ages, to delight in gardens. We know that the most ancient people of the earth had gardens; and that where nothing but heaps of sand are now found, and arid desolation now smiles, gardens once smiled, and the gorgeous

blossoms of the East shed their fragrance on races which would have been long ago forgotten, but for the ruined temples which in those distant ages, stood in their gardens. We know that the ancients wore crowns of flowers; and the laurels and the bays have stimulated many a noble heart to deeds of heroism and virtue. We know that, in China, hundreds of gardens float about the rivers, and, indeed, in all countries, gardening is the favorite recreation of the people.

In this country its love is deeply implanted in the breasts of everybody. We see the weaver striving for a pigmy garden on his house top—we see the poor man wrestling with his smoke for his little bower of scarlet runners—we know how very many who have no scrap of land to call their own, and will never, until they lie their length in the ground, and have passed forever the portals of life, still cultivate their favorite flowers or shrubs in jugs, bottles, and basins, we know that in factories and workshops we may find plants—and I have seen the poor prisoner, condemned to linger out year after year within the narrow limits of his place of confinement, gardening in his cell. Of the exponents of a language so universal—of the patient followers of nature in their efforts to produce the finest forms and the richest colors of her most lovely creations, which we enjoy alike at all times of life, and which whether on the bosom of beauty or the breast of old age, are alike beautiful—surely it is not too much to say that such men have a hold upon our remembrance when they themselves need comfort.”

GRAPE CULTURE.

We have received a short, but instructive Treatise on the cultivation of the grape in vineyards, by a member of the Cincinnati Horticultural Society, published by order of the Society. The fact that grape culture is better understood there than in any other part of our country, invests this treatise with importance.

We make the following extracts:

POSITION AND SOIL.

A hill side with a southern aspect is preferred, although an eastern or western exposure is nearly as good. Some have recommended the north, on account of safety from late spring frosts, but it will scarcely afford sun enough to ripen the grapes in cold wet seasons, (if the declivity is steep,) and may perhaps be more subject to “the rot.”

Any undulating surface if dry, is preferable to a level one.

The soil best suited for a vineyard, is a dry calcareous loam—with a porous subsoil—not retentive of moisture, if mixed with some gravel or small stones, so much the better. Some prefer a sandy soil with a gravelly sub-stratum; as in this the grapes are less subject to rot; the juice however is not so rich,—lacking in saccharine matter,—and in dry seasons the vines will suffer from the drought, shedding their leaves prematurely, and preventing the grapes from ripening well. In warm, sandy, and gravelly soils, the fruit buds on the vines are sometimes killed by the frosts of a severe winter.

Any soil underlaid by a stiff wet clay, is to be avoided, as also wet or spongy lands. No trees should be allowed to grow within one hundred feet of the vineyard.

PREPARING THE GROUND.

In autumn or early winter, dig or trench the ground all over, 2 to 2½ feet deep, with the spade—this is far better than plowing—turn the top soil under; the surface will be mellowed by the frosts of winter.

Wet spots in the vineyard may be drained by small stone culverts, or by what is termed a French drain, a ditch, with some loose stones thrown into it edgewise, covered with flat ones, and fill-d in with the earth again. Surface draining may be obtained by *concave sodded* avenues of 10 feet wide, and intersecting each other at 100 or 120 feet, thus throwing the vineyard into squares of that size. This will do for gentle declivities; but steep ones must be terraced, or benched with sod or stone, which is more expensive. These benches should be as broad as they can be made conveniently, and with a slight inclination to the hill, that they may be drained by stone or wooden gutters, running into the main trunks, to carry off the water without washing the soil. This is important, and requires good judgment and skill.

PLANTING.

Much diversity of opinion exists, as to the proper distance of planting the vines apart in the rows. Our native varieties with their long joints, large foliage, and luxuriant growth, certainly require more room to grow than the short jointed vines of the Rhine. Hence it is supposed, that our German vine-dressers have sometimes erred, in planting too close in this country,—3½ by 4; 4 by 4; 4 by 4½, &c. For steep hill sides, 3½ by 4½, or 3 by 5, may answer, but for gentle slopes 3½ by 6 is close enough, and for level land, 4 by 7.—This will admit sun and air to mature the fruit, and leave a liberal space for the roots to grow.

Lay off the vineyard carefully with a line, and put down a stick some 15 inches long, where each vine is to grow. Dig a hole about a foot deep, and plant two cuttings to each stick, in a slanting position, separated 6 or 8 inches at the bottom, and 1 inch at the top of the hole, throw in a shovel full of rich vegetable mould, from the woods, to make the roots strike freely; let the top eye of the cuttings be even with the surface of the ground, and cover with half an inch of light mould, if the weather is dry.

If both the cuttings grow, take up one of them the following spring, or cut it off underground, as but one vine should be left to each stake.

To prepare the cuttings for planting, bury them in the earth when pruned from the vines, and by the latter end of March, or early in April, which is the right time for planting, the buds will be so swelled, as to make them strike root with great certainty.

Each cutting should contain at least four joints, and be taken from wood well ripened; if a small part of the old wood is left on the lower end, so much the better; cut them off close below the lower joint, and about an inch above the upper. Set out some extra cuttings in a nursery to replace failures in the vineyard.

Some good vine-dressers have recommended plant-

ing with roots two years old, but the experience of others is in favor of planting at once with cuttings in the vineyard; the vine being never disturbed by removal makes the more thrifty and permanent plant.

Of course the planting should only be made when the ground is warm and dry, or mellow.

TREATMENT OF THE YOUNG VINEYARD.

The first year, keep the ground clean and free from weeds, with the hoe; many use the plough as being expeditious and economical, but the more careful vine dressers who can afford it, never cultivate with the plow, using only the two pronged German hoe, made especially for the purpose.

The earth should be stirred around the young vines, two or three times during the season, to promote their growth; superfluous shoots must be pulled off, leaving but one or two to grow, at first, and but one eventually.

In the spring, cut the young vine down to a single eye, or bud; at first, if two are left for greater safety, take off one, afterwards; drive a stake 6 or 7 feet long firmly to each plant. Locust or cedar is preferred, but oak or black walnut, charred at the end, driven into the earth, or coated with coal tar, will, it is said, last nearly as long. Keep the young vine tied neatly to the stake, with rye or wheat straw—pick off all suckers and let but one stalk or cane grow. The vineyard must be kept clean of weeds, and the young vines hoed as before.

The second spring after planting, cut down to two or three eyes, or joints, and the *third year* to four or five; suckering, tying up, and hoeing the vines as recommended above.

Re-plant from the nursery, where the cuttings have failed to strike root in the vineyard.

The third year, the vines will produce a few grapes, sometimes enough to pay the expenses of attending them.

Train two canes to the stake this year, take off suckers, and keep well hoed.

The vineyard having now commenced to bear, may be considered as *fairly established*.

GUANO—ITS REAL VALUE.

The following brief article from the Boston Cultivator, argues with and substantiates what we have written about the defective properties of guano as a manure, in some of our letters from England. Ed.

Messrs. Editors:—I have tried guano, and on various crops, and am prepared to assert that its real value is only to be found in the compost heap, or as a top dressing to meadow and pasture lands; on wheat, I have never found its effects to be good or permanent in any respect. Like poudrette, it appears too evanescent for the growth of cereal crops, giving up just at the time when it is most needed, namely, at the formation of the grain, its effects having hitherto proved detrimental rather than otherwise, by inducing a premature growth of the straw at the certain cost of the grain. And this is, I find, the concurrent testimony of many in this country as well as in England, where it is contended that an artificial manure may be concocted

of one-half the price of guano, that shall be far more permanent in its effects, and quite as beneficial for present purposes—say at twenty dollars per ton, instead of the present market price. I have had an opportunity of using Alger's phosphate of lime, and agree with many of those who have experimented with it, finding it good for pasture and mowing land, but for grain crops I have yet to learn "its real value."

ZENO.

DEEP PLOWING OBVIATES DROUTH.

We have often spoken of the importance of deep plowing as a preventive of drouth, and of the philosophy of it. And we have, from time to time, given many decisive and interesting facts on the subject, from the experience of our farmers, and here follows another from abroad.—Ed.

R. Morris says, in the *Farm Journal*, that he broke up stiff sod for corn with a heavy plough drawn by four oxen. A subsoil plough followed, running down six or seven inches deeper. The whole work was so thoroughly performed, that a stick could be thrust down into the loose earth, in almost any part of the field to a depth of fifteen inches. The summer was excessively dry, pastures were burnt and bare, and tillage crops suffered severely, but the corn on the subsoiled land continued green and luxuriant throughout the season.

METHOD OF CURING PRIZE HAMS.

The hams of Maryland and Virginia have long enjoyed a wide celebrity. At the last exhibition of the Maryland State Agricultural Society, four premiums were awarded for hams. We are informed by those who had the opportunity of examining them, that they were of first rate quality. The following are receipts by which the hams were cured, says the American Farmer:

T. E. HAMILTON'S RECEIPT—FIRST PREMIUM.—To every 100 lbs. of pork take 8 lbs. of G. and A. salt, 2 oz. saltpetre, 2 lbs. brown sugar, $1\frac{1}{4}$ oz. potash, and 4 gallons of water; mix the above, and pour the brine over the meat, after it has lain in the tub for one or two days. Let the hams remain six weeks in the brine, and then dry several days before smoking. I have generally had the meat rubbed with fine salt, when it is packed down. The meat should be perfectly cool before packing.

J. GREEN'S RECEIPTS—SECOND PREMIUM.—To every 1000 lbs. of pork take half a bushel and half a peck of salt, 3 lbs. of saltpetre, 3 lbs. of sugar and 2 quarts of molasses. Mix—rub the bacon with it well; keep on for three weeks in all; at the end of nine days take out the hams and put those which are at the top at the bottom.

R. BROOK, JR.'S RECEIPT—THIRD PREMIUM.—One bushel of fine salt, half a bushel of ground alum salt, one and a half lbs. to the 1000 lbs. of pork, left to lie in pickle four weeks, hung up and smoked with hickory until the rind becomes a dark brown.

C. D. SINGULF'S RECEIPT—FOURTH PREMIUM.—To 1000 lbs. of green hams take 8 lbs. G. and A. salt, 2 lbs. of brown sugar or molasses equivalent, 2 oz. saltpetre, 2 oz. pearl ashes, 4 gallons of water dissolved well; skimming

GREAT TRIAL OF AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

A great trial of agricultural implements came off at Geneva, N. Y. on the 20th of July, under the auspices of the New York State Agricultural Society, an account of which we have received in pamphlet form.

MOWING MACHINES.

The following account of the trial of mowing machines, will be read with interest. The machine of which we have spoken as having been presented at the Kalamazoo fair (Ketchum's, made by Howard) seems to have taken the second premium. The account says:

Early on the morning of Tuesday, the 20th of July, the Marshal, (Wm. Johnson, Esq. of Ontario) announced that the Mowing Machines were on the ground ready for trial. Numbers corresponding with the lots, surveyed and marked on the Meadow, were drawn by the exhibitors, and each machine was directed to its station according to the number drawn.

A view of the field at this time, with the array of Mowing Machines of varied construction, claiming to save labor and accomplish better work than had hitherto been effected by the farmer, presented a scene of interest, not only to the agriculturist and mechanic, but also to every man whose views extended to the advancement of his State and of the nation. It could not escape the observing mind, that in this State, producing annually about *four millions* tons of hay, there was on that field machines having the capacity to add, by their use an annual income, to the farming population of more than a million of dollars: and extending these views beyond the limits of our State, applying them to the Union, whose surface gives annually more than *thirteen millions* of tons of hay, how important becomes the investigation of this class of machines, thereby exhibiting to the agriculturist their powers, uses and advantages.*

The duty of the judges might have been confined strictly and fairly to a report of the successful machines, yet as agricultural machinery may be esteemed as being in its youth, immature, as ingenuity and skill stamped their features on most of the machines presented, it seems alike due to the mechanic and farmer, to present a notice of the *unsuccessful* as well as the more favored machines.

At the appointed hour the judges were on the ground, and caused each machine to take its station as it arrived and was adjusted.

The KETCHUM Mower led off handsomely, opening a double swath.

MANNY'S Mower entered in the same manner and opened a double swath. So well was the grass cut by both machines, that no decided preference could be given to either—and it was manifest that no labor with a scythe could perform the work as well.

Both machines then entered upon the low grounds encountering high and thick grass, portions being lodged

and tangled, lying in all directions; they were directed to cut double swaths through this grass, and then to follow each other laying their swaths side by side. Ketchum's machine performed the task without interruption; Manny's machine was stopped by cutting through a hammock, which, lodging on the knives, pressed down the standing grass, preventing a free cutting action, a second interruption occurred when entering the swath, from inattention to clearing the cutting knives. Aside from these casualties the work was well performed.

The quality of the work accomplished by both machines could not fail to satisfy any farmer, and was better done than could be performed by the most expert mower with a scythe.

MANNY'S MACHINE is peculiar in its construction, by a facility of raising or depressing the cutting apparatus while in motion, at the pleasure of the driver, giving to it the capability of cutting the heads of grasses for seed, and afterwards the straw or stems and leaves for fodder; it runs on wheels; is easily moved from place to place; is strongly braced, and by an ingenious arrangement is capable of being contracted into a small compass for housing when not in use. Another peculiarity common to both Mr. Manny's and Mr. Murray's knives, is a cutting edge at the base, intended to prevent clogging. A reel is used with this machine, which has a tendency to lay the grass in waves, and not of uniform thickness over the surface of the field.

KETCHUM'S MACHINE is remarkable for its compactness and simplicity of construction, also for the perforation of the knives, which, it is claimed, renders it impossible to clog in the cutting operation, the knives cut with a blunt edge at this perforation, necessarily consuming more power to effect the object than if it be a sharp edge. A curved iron elbow connects the knife or cutter bar with the running parts of the machine, bringing the knives close to the ground. It needs perhaps more strength and uniformity in mechanism—it works without a reel, performing its work admirably.

McCORMICK'S MACHINE cuts with knives of a peculiar form, being broad at the base, short in length and having a *sickle* edge working between spear shaped teeth or fingers. The construction of this machine is too fragile for useful purposes, the knives yielded after a few swaths were cut, needing to be replaced by another set; these yielded also. The stubble was left long and uneven.

BURRALL'S MACHINE was presented for trial direct from the workshop, and now first subjected to its intended work. It is ingenious in mechanism, presenting a longer vibration of the cutting knives than any other machine; a fly wheel is attached to overcome variable resistances and equalize movements, and certainly the Burrall Machine moved over the ground with less noise and more smoothly than any other subject to trial.

Without pretending to question the theory, it seems at first sight that a wheel of so small diameter and weight, could not efficiently or profitably collect power sufficient to overcome any sudden resistance to which a mowing machine is usually liable; certainly at this trial it did not prevent very frequent interruptions to its progress.—The ingenuity and excellent workmanship of this ma-

*Estimating the hay crop of the United States, as per the census of 1850, at 13,605,384 tons, the average cost of cutting and making at \$1 per ton, and the saving by use of Mowing Machines, at one-fourth of the present cost, the annual gain would be \$3,401,345.

chine is worthy of high commendation, and we cannot doubt that under improvements which the present trials will suggest to the proprietor, he will at an early day perfect a Mowing Machine to stand in the foremost rank.—In its present condition it choked frequently and needed oft adjustment.

MURRAY'S MACHINE arrived at the trial grounds from Illinois at the close of the day; it was not properly adjusted for work, and no one conversant with its use was present to work it. Under these circumstances the work was badly done.

There are however in this machine points of ingenuity and excellence of arrangement which will probably place it when perfected among the favored implements of the agriculturist.

RUGG'S PATENT MOWER retains in a great degree the form of the earliest Reaping Machine as patented by the Rev. P. Bell in England; the horses are attached to the rear of the machine propelling it, while the driver guides it by a steering wheel; he can also elevate or depress the cutting knives at his pleasure. The advantages claimed for this patent were not apparent and the machine soon ceased to operate.

DANFORD & CO'S MACHINE was not in time for examination on the first day, and when in operation on the morning of the second day, it was frequently impeded by clogging. The peculiar feature of this machine is the reciprocating action of the cutting knives; they are moved by eccentrics, causing the knives to pass each other in close contact on the same plane, the action of the blade therefore is like that of shears. This position of the knife cannot probably maintain a long continued perfect action, for as soon as the knives from any cause lose their sharp edge, the tougher grasses will be drawn between the plates, and by clogging arrest the progress of the machine.

The excellence discernable in the best Mowing Machine now exhibited, leaves no doubt as to their utility.—It is equally clear that the work performed is far better than can be done by manual labor with a scythe.

The farmer will, however, need the occasional use of the scythe; for neatness and thorough husbandry will claim the scythe to trim fence corners, to remove baulks occasioned by careless driving, as well as herbage which may escape the machine when passing stumps or rocks.

The economy derived from their use may be understood from the following computation:

An able man can cut with a scythe an area of one acre and a quarter each day, on a meadow covered with grass equal to two tons per acre; of heavy clover he will cut not to exceed one acre per day; a few men can accomplish more than above stated, but on an average these quantities are found to be a full days work.

The rate of wages varies in different places and counties, yet a fair average rate of compensation in Central New York for men engaged in the hay harvest, is seventy-five cents per day, or eighty cents per acre by the job, with their board and lodging.

Assuming the cost of cutting and making hay at one dollar per day for each man employed, we may approximate closely to the advantages of Mowing Machines.—

Thus
One acre of meadow grass yielding two tons
will cost for cutting and making the hay, \$ 2 00
A field of ten acres will therefore cost, 20 00

A Mowing Machine will cut an acre per hour, worked by one man with two horses; a field of ten acres may be conveniently cut in one day by the machine; three additional laborers will be sufficient and ample for turning, raking and cocking the ten acres.

Then the labor of the 4 men is equal to \$4 00
1 team, say, 1 50
1st. on cost of the machine—wear and tear,
say 15 per cent. per annum, to sink the cost
in ten years, \$15; this amount divided e-
qually to ten harvest days is equal to a daily
charge of 1 50

Cost of cutting and making ten acres of hay, —
of two tons per acre by a machine, \$7 00

The difference in favor of the Mowing Machine is there-
fore a saving of labor equal in value to *thirteen dollars* per
day, and upon every ten acres of grass land, the gain upon
each ton is sixty five cents.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

ISOMORPHISM ON SUBSTITUTABLE BODIES.—It requires no argument to satisfy the thinking mind that the animal kingdom is made of identically the same elements as the vegetable kingdom; for the herbivorous animals directly live upon and are made up of vegetables, and the carnivorous indirectly live upon the same elements. When animals cannot get the kinds of food they prefer, they take other kinds, and convert them to their own substance—this is *isomorphism*. So vegetables, to a certain extent, substitute one kind of food for another, and even one element for another.

When the forest is burned, the ash which is left indicates the amount of matter derived from the earth to make up the constitution of the tree. This proportion varies in different plants, and in different parts of the same plant. Thus, annuals and biennials contain a greater per centage of mineral matters; and the young shoots and green parts of perennials contain more than the older, drier, and less colored parts. The absolute quantity ranges from 1 to 12 per cent of the dry plant. The remainder, being from 88 to 99 per cent, are the portions derived by growth from the water and air. These may be separated, thus—dry the plant as long as it will give off any moisture, and it will determine how much water existed in that state in the vegetable. This quantity varies in different parts of a plant, from 5 to 75 per cent. The application of heat, to any further extent, is incapable of obtaining more water, as such, from the organism; but still, water has been solidified, and remains fixed in its tissues, but is prevented from escaping at any temperature short of total decomposition. This is termed *water of combination*, because it is the elements with which it is combined which mark its properties, and renders its dilution and separation more difficult. By careful analysis, however, it may be shown that this second quantity of water exists to the amount of 50 per cent of the dry mass; that which remains behind, the black mass of charcoal or carbon, equal in amount, in the dry plant, to the foregoing, is that portion which has been derived from the air; so that we might, with a great degree of precision, from the foregoing statement, determine the sources of the materials of the vegetable races, and state them thus:

Derived from the earth,	2 per cent.
" " water,	50 " "
" " air,	40 " "

Such would be the composition of a branch of a tree. The small amount derived from the earth, requires the particular attention of the farmer. This mineral which the plant abstracts from the earth, is always of a steady amount in the same species of plants.

Abundant experiments have shown that the quantity and quality of the ash found in the same plant, is always the same; and also that, grown on the same soil under the same circumstances, the quantity and quality of the ash left by two species of plants is the same;—the ash of each differing more widely in this respect, the more remote in botanical relation are the two species.—There are no casualties in this respect, but these are real essential parts of the tree or plant, without which it cannot enjoy a healthy life, or obtain completeness in all its parts.

If two plants of the same kind are grown on different soils, and their progress examined, the composition of the mineral matter, from either plant, will be found almost identical or so nearly so as to strike the mind of the examiner with the idea that the similarity in both cases is owing to a preference or selecting power exerted by the plant itself.

There is thus established between the kind and quality of the crop, and the nature of the chemical composition of the soil, a clear relation, which is universal in its application, no matter in what latitude vegetation may be placed. It shows that the soil on which the plant grows is not a mere cohesive thing, in which it steadies itself, and to which it fastens, enabling it to stand against the winds, which would otherwise make a ruin of it, but that it is really a beneficent parent, which supplies the most necessary nutriment; and the dead clay thus feeds the organism. That this is true, is evident from the fact that if a young and healthy plant be placed where it is deprived of this nourishment, it droops, sickens, and dies. A few examples will serve to show the existence of this relation more distinctly.

Lime is present in nearly all plants; but while 100 lbs of the ash of wheat contains 8 lbs of it, 100 lbs of the ash of barley contains only 4½ lbs. The barley growing in the same soil, and taking up in the total as much mineral matter as the wheat, yet takes only half the quantity of lime. Again, potash is contained in most plants; but while the wheat contains only 19 lbs. per hundred in the ash, that of turnips contain 37½ lbs. per hundred, while the amount of all the mineral matter withdrawn from the soil by wheat is much more than by turnips.

Many more instances might be cited, but this will suffice to show the importance of furnishing all the mineral food necessary for the requirements of the crop to be grown. Here isomorphism may come in to a certain extent. All alkalies are said to be isomorphous. Thus, potash and soda will, in most cases, supply the place of each other. All marine plants prefer soda, but potash predominates in the cereals; and when the plant cannot obtain enough of the one, it will take the other.

Magnesia and manganese are isomorphous bodies. Now manganese is but rarely found in the ash of plants, and it is most probable that it is then owing to there not being sufficient magnesia available for the plants.

MARTIN MOWER.

Bangor, July 16th, 1852.—Maine Farmer.

NOTE.—Our friend has explained one kind of isomorphism, inasmuch as the assimilating powers of the digestive organs of animals and plants, daily convert different articles of their food into the same form; but there is another meaning to the word. It is also used to express the fact that different elements, or different proportions of the same element, among minerals, sometimes assume the same crystalline form. Ed.

IMPORTANT!

We have made arrangements, at considerable expense, to send out with the next No. of the Michigan Farmer, to all our subscribers who have paid for their papers, and all who shall become subscribers, an extra containing a beautiful engraving of the great Crystal Palace now in process of erection in New York, to accommodate the World's Fair, to open in May next. Who will pay up, and who will become subscribers?

DIED,

In this city, on the 29th ult., of fever, GEORGE SUMNER, Esq., Attorney at Law, formerly of Boston—aged 34 years—a man which has spread mourning and sorrow through a large circle of acquaintances and friends.

RECEIPTS FOR THE MICHIGAN FARMER,

FROM SEPTEMBER 30TH, TO OCTOBER 30TH.

R. S. Varnum \$1, Alex. Hendry \$1, Nathan Phillips \$1, Mathew Kern \$2, Henry Breeze \$1, E. H. Lathrop \$3, E. Hart \$2, B. K. Dibble 1, C. Cook 2, W. Lowes 2, Wheeler, Mellick & Co. \$23, Lewis Nash 1, Nelson Corey 1, P. A. White 1, B. J. Kenyon 1, F. A. Bolles 1, M. Cadwalader 1, A. A. Copeland 3, J. T. Wilson 3, L. Fitch 1, Thos. Hopsan 1, S. Clements 1, D. Birdsall 1, Dr. W. J. Delavan 1, L. Treadwell 1, Dr. S. Ralph 2, John Whitton 1, Henry Huif 1, B. Tiffany 1, C. L. Treadwell 1, P. Howard 1, S. L. Gage 1, G. N. Hastings 1, C. W. Ferris 1, Daniel Beebe 1, Lewis Emery 1, L. Russell 1, J. H. McCollum 3, Rev. E. Buck 2, Mm. Meyer 1, M. A. Taylor 1, W. Welch 1, Thos. Clark 2, C. K. Carpenter 1, E. W. Hewitt 3, N. A. Prudden 1, W. Root 2, John S. Buck 3, L. Hodgman 1, John Coats 3, H. F. Baker 1 50c. State Ag. Society 6, Emery & Co. \$25, E. S. James 2, E. M. Stickney 5, Geo. Wickham 1, Wm. Adair 3, M. Frizer 3, Reuben A. Carman 2, Lewis Emery 9, J. W. Cothren 1, W. C. Church 1 50c.—J. Hall 1.

DETROIT PRICES CURRENT,

Herd's Grass.....	bu. \$2.00	Salt.....	bbbl. 1.31
Flax.....	" 1.00	Butter.....	" 17@22
Lime.....	" bbl. 75	Eggs.....	" do 14
Flour.....	" 3.75@3.80	Hides, dry.....	" 8½
Corn.....	" bu. 56	Wheat.....	" bu. 19
Oats.....	" 34	Hams.....	" 19
Rye.....	" 40	Onions.....	" 75@1.00
Barley.....	" 62@75	Cranberries.....	" 1.50
Hogs.....	100 lb. 4.51 5.00	Buckwheat.....	" 100 lb. 1.2½
Apples.....	" bu. 25@37	Indian Meal.....	" 1.00
Potatoes.....	" 50	Beef.....	" 3.00@4.00
Hay.....	ton 7.00 9.00	Lard.....	" lb (retail) 12
Wool.....	" lb. 18@40	Honey.....	" 12
Peas.....	" bu. 1.00	Apples, dried.....	" bu. 5.00
Beans.....	" 1.50	Peaches.....	" 15.00
Beef.....	bbbl. 9.50@10.50	Clover seed.....	" 5.00
Pork, mess.....	" @20.00	Pine lumber, clear, 20'00' 7' 18'	
White Fish.....	" 6.50	" " 2d " 15.00	
Trout.....	" 5.50	Bill lumber.....	" 11.00
Codfish.....	" 5.50	Flooring.....	" 13.00
Cheese.....	" 8	Common.....	" 10.00
Wood.....	cord 2.00@2.50	Lath.....	" 2.00
Water Lime.....	" bbl. 1.50	Coal Tar.....	" bbl. 2.50

1,000 BOOK AGENTS WANTED,
TO SELL PICTORIAL AND USEFUL WORKS FOR THE YEAR 1853.

ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS A YEAR!

WANTED, in every county of the United States, active and enterprising business men, to engage in the sale of the best Books published in the country. To men of good address, possessing a small capital of from \$25 to \$100 such inducements will be offered as to enable them to make from \$3 to \$5 a day profit.

The books published by us are all very useful in their character, extremely popular, and command large sales wherever they are offered.

For further particulars, address (postage paid),

ROBERT SEARS, Publisher,
181 William Street, New York

THE OHIO FARMER AND MECHANICS' ASSISTANT.

EDITED AND PUBLISHED IN CLEVELAND, OHIO, BY THOMAS BROWN.

A Family Newspaper, devoted to Agriculture, Horticulture, Mechanic Arts, Literature, Domestic Economy, Social Improvement, and General Intelligence.

The Wholesale and Retail prices of all the leading articles bought and sold in the New York, Cleveland, Cincinnati and Pittsburgh Markets, are also accurately reported each week.

THE FARMER is one of the largest, and is acknowledged by all who are acquainted with it, to be one of the best Agricultural Family Newspapers in the United States.

Sample Copies will be sent to any part of the United States, if the request be made of the Publisher, by letter, POST PAID.

TERMS.

SINGLE SUBSCRIBERS, \$2.00. CLUBS OF TWO OR MORE, \$1.50 EACH—invariably in advance.

A limited number of Advertisements will be inserted in the Farmer at the rate of \$1.00 per square, (ten lines or less,) for the first insertion and 50 cents for each subsequent insertion.

THOS. BROWN, Publisher,
Merchants' Exchange, Cleveland, Ohio.

October 28th, 1852.—3mo.*

THE NEW YORK AGRICULTURIST.

A Weekly Journal, in Large Newspaper Form.

DEVOTED to the interests of the Commercial as well as Practical Farmer and Planter, the Stock Breeder, the Rural Architect, the Fruit and Arboriculturist, the Market and Kitchen Gardener, and the Florist; together with a complete summary of the most important Foreign and Domestic News. Published every Thursday.

TERMS.

One Copy.....	\$2 per annum.
Three Copies.....	5 per annum.
Five Copies.....	8 per annum.
Ten Copies.....	15 per annum.
Fifteen Copies.....	20 per annum.
Twenty Copies.....	25 per annum.

The first number will be issued on Thursday, October 21. Postage, half a cent per week.

All Postmasters and others, disposed to act as Agents, will be furnished with Prospectus and Specimen Numbers, on application to the Publishers.

A. B. ALLEN & CO., 189 Water St., New York.

THE NEW YORK FARM AND GARDEN.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL,

Of Thirty-two Pages, 1 double Column, Imperial Octavo; made up principally, by Selections from the Weekly Pages of "The New York Agriculturist."

THIS Periodical will be devoted exclusively to the interests of the Farmer and Planter, the Stock Breeder, the Rural Architect, the Nurseryman, the Gardener, and the Florist.

Each number will be filled entirely with permanently valuable reading matter. No advertisements allowed in its columns; and not even the large heading, or terms and contents, usual on the first and last pages of similar journals, will be permitted. All such matter will invariably appear on the cover. Thus the numbers of the Farm and Garden, bound up at the end of the year, will have the same appearance as a book. This is a new feature in periodicals of this class, and should be the more highly commended to public favor. Published on the first of each month.

TERMS.

One Copy.....	\$1 per annum.
Three Copies.....	2 per annum.
Eight Copies.....	5 per annum.

Lower Rates than the above will be made with Agricultural Societies or Clubs, by taking a larger number of copies. Postage, only one-half a cent per month.

Postmasters and others, disposed to act as Agents, will be furnished with Prospectus and Specimen Numbers, on application to the Publishers.

A. B. ALLEN & CO., 1-9 Water st., New York.

INDUCEMENT TO GENTLEMEN ACTING AS AGENTS.—Any person forwarding us ten or more subscriptions each, for either of the above papers, will be entitled to a copy, gratis, for one year.

WILLSON'S PREMIUM CORN AND COB MILLS.

The subscriber would again inform FARMERS, MILLERS, and all interested in this matter, that he still manufactures the above Mills, for reducing with great despatch ears of Corn into suitable meal, or provender for feeding Hogs, Sheep, Horses, and horned Cattle.—The balance wheel constitutes a superior SHELLER. PRICE \$50.00.

Also he manufactures to order, for Millers a BREAKER, to break with despatch, ears of Corn sufficiently fine to be received by a run of Millstones. PRICE \$35.00.

I invite the attention of Feeders and Millers to the above Mills; believing they will stand approved in EVERY RESPECT.

J. I. WILLSON.

Willson's Temperance House, JACKSON, MICH.

STEWART & CO.

95 Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, Dealers in choice Drugs and Medicines, Pure Eclectic and Botanic Medicines, both simple and compound, Vegetable Extracts, Concentrated Medicines, Oils, Gums, Roots, Herbs and Barks. Also, Electro-Magnetic Machines, Trusses, Shoulder Braces, Supporters, Medical Books, &c., opposite the Peninsular Bank.

J. S. OAKLEY.

M. P. STEWART.

WINDSOR NURSERIES.



OPPOSITE DETROIT.

JAMES DOUGALL has the pleasure to inform the inhabitants of Detroit and Michigan, that he has now for sale a fine stock of Fruit and Ornamental Trees and Shrubs.

The Fruit Department

Comprises nearly every variety worthy of cultivation, amongst which are

Apples—160 of the best varieties, about 50 of which are propagated extensively.

Pears—225 selected varieties, from which all inferior have been discarded—comprising the finest new foreign and American kinds.

Dwarf Pears, on true Angers Quince, of nearly every kind suitable for that kind of stock; very well grown.

Cherries—Standard and Dwarf, on Mahaleb of all the standard and new varieties.

Peaches—Every good kind; several hundred of which are very fine extra sized, transplanted—suitable for planting where fruit is wanted at once.

Plums, Nectarines, Apricots and Quinces.

Gooseberries, Currants and Raspberries of all the newest and finest kinds.

Strawberries, Mulberries and Grape Vines, foreign and native of all the standard sorts.

Almonds, Chestnuts, Walnuts and Filberts, comprising all the new fine French and English varieties.

In the Ornamental Department

Will be found, among many other species,

Horse Chestnuts, white, yellow, scarlet and double red.

Weeping Trees, of all sorts, such as Elm, Ash, Japan Sophra Oak, Mountain Ash, Beech, &c.

Purple and copper leaved Beech, Tulip Tree, Mountain Ash, silver and Norway Maple, American and European Larch.

Lilacs, many fine varieties, Althea Frutex, Magnolias, Flowering Thorns, double red, white and scarlet, Japan Quince, Flowering Almonds, Honeysuckles, Clematis, Spireas, &c., &c.

In Evergreens he has Spruce Balsam, Pine and Cedar, both of extra and small size; Tree Box, &c.

Also Roses of many fine new Moss and other rare hardy varieties—Perpetuals, Bourbons, Teas, China, Noisette, Ayrshire, &c.

Tree and herbaceous Peonies—a fine stock of the former.

Tulips—The best and most extensive collection on this continent of fine named kinds.

Rhubarb, Downing's Colossal, Victoria and Giant.

Privet, for hedges—an extra stock of a superior quality. Orange, 3 years old, extra size; Basket Willows, &c.

All of which will be sold low for cash.

The Nursery is situated immediately opposite the old Ferry Landing. Articles purchased will be carefully packed and delivered free of charge in Detroit.

Orders can be left at the Nursery, or at J. & J. Dougall's New Store on their Old Stand, Windsor, where catalogues can be obtained. Intended purchasers are invited to call at the Nursery and inspect the stock.

JAMES DOUGALL,

Windsor, Oct. 11th, 1852.

FOR SALE.

A good Farm situated in Troy, Oakland County, containing Two Hundred acres—140 of which is under a good state of cultivation, and is well adapted for grazing. There is a good Frame House and Barn, also a large shed for cattle. The fences are in first rate order.

Said Farm is eighteen miles from Detroit, on the line of the Plank Road now being built from Detroit to Rochester, over 12 miles of which is completed. Title good. For particulars inquire of Hiram Smith, Troy, Oakland County, or I. S. Pierson, Ann Arbor City.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

FOR THE FALL AND WINTER OF 18 52

SMITH & TYLER,

OFFER for sale at reduced prices this Fall and Winter a large assortment of Boots and Shoes, of their own and Eastern manufacture. Also, a large and complete stock of

INDIA RUBBER BOOTS AND SHOES,

Mr. SMITH gives his personal attention to all work of our make, and having in employ a large number of workmen. We consider our facilities for manufacturing in the best manner, every article in Boot and Shoe line unsurpassed by any.

We wish to call particular attention to our own manufacture

MEN'S STOGA BOOTS.

believing they are the best made in the State.

Also to our Men's Calf and Kip Boots, warranted, and manufactured by ourselves. As to the

Women's Calf Lace Bootes, and Morocco Buskins, we are using the best stock, and none can be made better. We speak of a few of these leading articles. It is impossible to notice all; but we would intimate to those wishing to purchase Goods in our line, that it will be very much to their advantage to remember and call at the New Cheap Boot and Shoe Store,

WOODWARD AVENUE,

Corner of Larned Street, First Store, South of the Presbyterian Ch.

DETROIT, MICH.

SMITH & TYLER.

sept

HOLMES & COMPANY,
DEALERS IN STAPLE AND FANCY
DRY GOODS,
AT THEIR NEW FREESTONE STORE,
Woodward Avenue,
J. HOLMES, } New-York,
C. L. ANTHONY, } **DETROIT.**
S. M. HOLMES, Detroit.

1852.] ONE PRICE ONLY. [1852
SUMMER CLOTHING.
CLOTHING at wholesale and retail, at the well known establishment of the subscribers, corner of Jefferson and Woodward avenues, may be found a very large assortment of Clothing, comprising every quality and description of garments, which for style, durability and economy cannot be excelled. FARMERS and MECHANICS may here procure substantial and economical garments and as no deviation in price is practiced, they can rely on purchasing goods, in all cases, at the lowest possible rates. Under this system the inexperienced can buy as low as the most expert and practical buyer. Also on hand.
BOYS' AND CHILDREN'S CLOTHING, in great variety, India Rubber and Oiled Clothing, Trunks and Carpet Bags, under garments, Cravats, Stocks, &c.
Cloths, Cassimeres and Vestings always on hand, and made up to order in the best manner. **HALLOCK & RAYMOND.**
March 9, 1851. apply

DETROIT SEED STORE
AND AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE
Garden, Field and Flower Seeds.
IMPORTED Flower Roots, Agricultural Implements and Machines, Starbuck's Troy Plow, Ruggles, Nourse & Mason's Eagle Plow, and Wisconsin Plow, Grant's Fanning Mills, Rich's Straw Cutters, Corn-planter and sub-drill, Washing Machines, Corn shellers, Cultivators, Thermometer churns, &c.
ALSO
Agents for the sale of Wheeler's Patent Improved Portable Railroad Horse Power and Over-shot Threshers and Separators.
F. F. PARKER & BROTHER.
myl 81 Woodward avenue.


THE WORKING FARMER,
A MONTHLY PERIODICAL,
DEVOTED to Agriculture, Horticulture, Floriculture, Kitchen Gardening, Management of Hot Houses, Green Houses, etc.—Embracing Agricultural Chemistry, preparation of Manures, &c.
Edited by Professor JAMES J. MAFES, and published by J. McCreedy, 351 Broadway, New-York.
TERMS per year, (in advance), Single copies, \$1 00
“ “ “ Six 50
“ “ “ Twenty-five “ 10 00
Back volumes, in covers, at subscription prices.
The Fourth volume will commence March 1, 1852. Jan

Indemnity to Millions of Western Farmers!
MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY,
BATAVIA, GENESEE COUNTY, N. Y.,
Incorporated by the Legislature of N. Y., April 23d, 1844.
THIS Company will not insure any, except what is strictly farming property.
Insures only in the States of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Michigan. **E. M. STICKNEY,**
Pine Lake, Michigan. Travelling Agent

ARMSTRONG'S
HAT AND CAP EMPORIUM,
NO. 59, WOODWARD AVENUE,
(Between the Presbyterian Church and Jefferson avenue, sign of the Big Hat, Detroit.)
DEALER in Hats, Caps, Furs, Robes, Umbrellas, Canes, Gloves, Scarfs, Cravats, Suspenders, Buckskin Gloves, &c., very cheap for cash.
Would respectfully solicit the patronage of Farmers and others coming into the city, pledging himself to sell as cheap as any other establishment west of New York.
His stock of Hats and Caps are of his own manufacture and warranted the best.
Orders for any style of Hat or Cap promptly attended to. Regalia and Jewels of the different orders constantly on hand.

SMITH'S Patent Ventilating Smut Machine.
Also, Mott's Agricultural Furnace, for sale by
Detroit, Jan. 1, 1850. D. O. & W. S. PENFIELD.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.
A LARGE and increasing variety constantly on hand, at Manufacturers' prices, adding transportation, among which are the following:
Starbuck's Premium Plows, 8 sizes, \$1 to \$18 00
Ruggles, Nourse, Mason & Co., do. 3 to 14 00
Emery & Co. 3 to 14 00
Emery & Co's Improved Railroad Horse Powers and Overshot Threshing Machines and Separators, one horse \$145 00, two horse \$170 00.
Wheeler's do. \$140 to \$165.
Smith's New Improved Ventilating Smut Machine and Buckwheat Scourer, \$40 to \$200.
Straw Cutters from \$6 to 17. Corn Shellers from \$8 to \$20. Emery's Corn Planter, and Seed Drill, \$15. Vegetable Cutters, \$13—Folding Harrows, 8 to \$20. Corn and Wheat Cultivators, 5 to \$9 Fanning Mills; Cast iron Dirt Scrapers, 4 to \$7. Grindstones with rollers, 2 to \$10. thurns, 1 50 to \$6. Agricultural Furnaces 10 to \$30. Cheese Presses; Hydraulic Rams, 10 to \$20. Wheel-barrows 4 to \$6. Well and Cistern Pumps, 3 to \$30. Wheat Drills, Bush-hooks and Scythes, \$1 50. Bog Hoes \$2; pruning knives, \$2; pruning saw and chisels, \$2; Post Spoons \$1. Screw wrench 1 50 to \$5. Trucks, &c., 3 to \$10.
Also, Hay, Straw and Dung Forks, Potato Hooks, Hoes, Shovels, Spades, Grain Cradles, Scythes, Rakes, Hay knives Chains, Flap-joints, &c. all for sale cheap for cash. D. O. & W. S. PENFIELD, Jan 87 Woodward avenue.

CHARLES PIQUETTE,

MANUFACTURER OF
SUPERIOR DIAMOND POINTED GOLD PENS.
DAMAGED PENS RE-POINTE
Also, damaged Watches and Jewelry, repaired by a superior workman, and the work warranted.
Detroit, August 1, 1850.

FARMER'S STORE.
[GOOD PLACE FOR FARMERS TO TRADE AT.]
CHARLES L. BRISTOL,
DEALER IN
GROCERIES AND COUNTRY PRODUCE,
62 Woodward avenue, near the churches,
DETROIT.
Country Produce bought and sold, and choice brands of Flour and Family Groceries constantly on hand.

EAGLE & ELLIOTT,
DEALERS IN CLOTHING,
WHOLESALE AND FOR THE MILLION
KEEP constantly on hand as large a stock of Ready Made Clothing as may be found West of New York. Being of Philadelphia manufacture, and well suited for this market, they are prepared to sell at low prices, at wholesale, or in quantities to suit purchasers. They beg leave to call attention to their
New Cloth Ware Room (Second Story),
French, Belgian, English and American Cloths, Cassimeres and trimmings, Serges, Satins and Vestings, making the best assorted stock of these goods to be found West of Buffalo; for sale wholesale or made to order, at their
CUSTOM DEPARTMENT.
where every satisfaction as to fit, style, &c., is warranted, and at reasonable prices.
EAGLE & ELLIOTT,
61 Woodward avenue, nearly opposite the Presbyterian Church, Detroit. Jan

BACK VOLUMES OF THE FARMER.
A FEW COPIES of the 6th, 7th, and 8th volumes of the Michigan Farmer, pamphlet bound and in boards, for sale at the book store of
Detroit, Feb. 1st, 1851. C. MORSE & SON, marif

TERMS.—The MICHIGAN FARMER is published monthly, at Detroit, Michigan, for one dollar a year, in advance, after three months, \$1 25; after six months, \$1 50; after nine months, \$1 75. No subscription taken for less than one year, now discontinued till all arrearages are paid. To clubs, five copies for four dollars, twelve copies for nine dollars, and any greater number at the same rate.
Advertising, for one folio, or one hundred words, first insertion one dollar and fifty cents—twelve dollars per annum.
Office next door to Markhams Book Store, opposite Major Kearney—entrance same as that Daily Advertiser.